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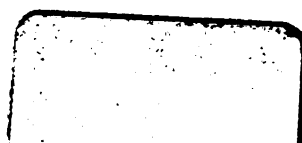
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pt. 12



SOLDIERS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION

HEARINGS

U. S. Congress. House. BEFORE THE

1 COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS AND ADDENDA

PART 12



WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1920

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COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIXTY-SIXTH CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION.

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NICHOLAS LONGWORTH, Ohio.
WILLIS C. HAWLEY, Oregon.
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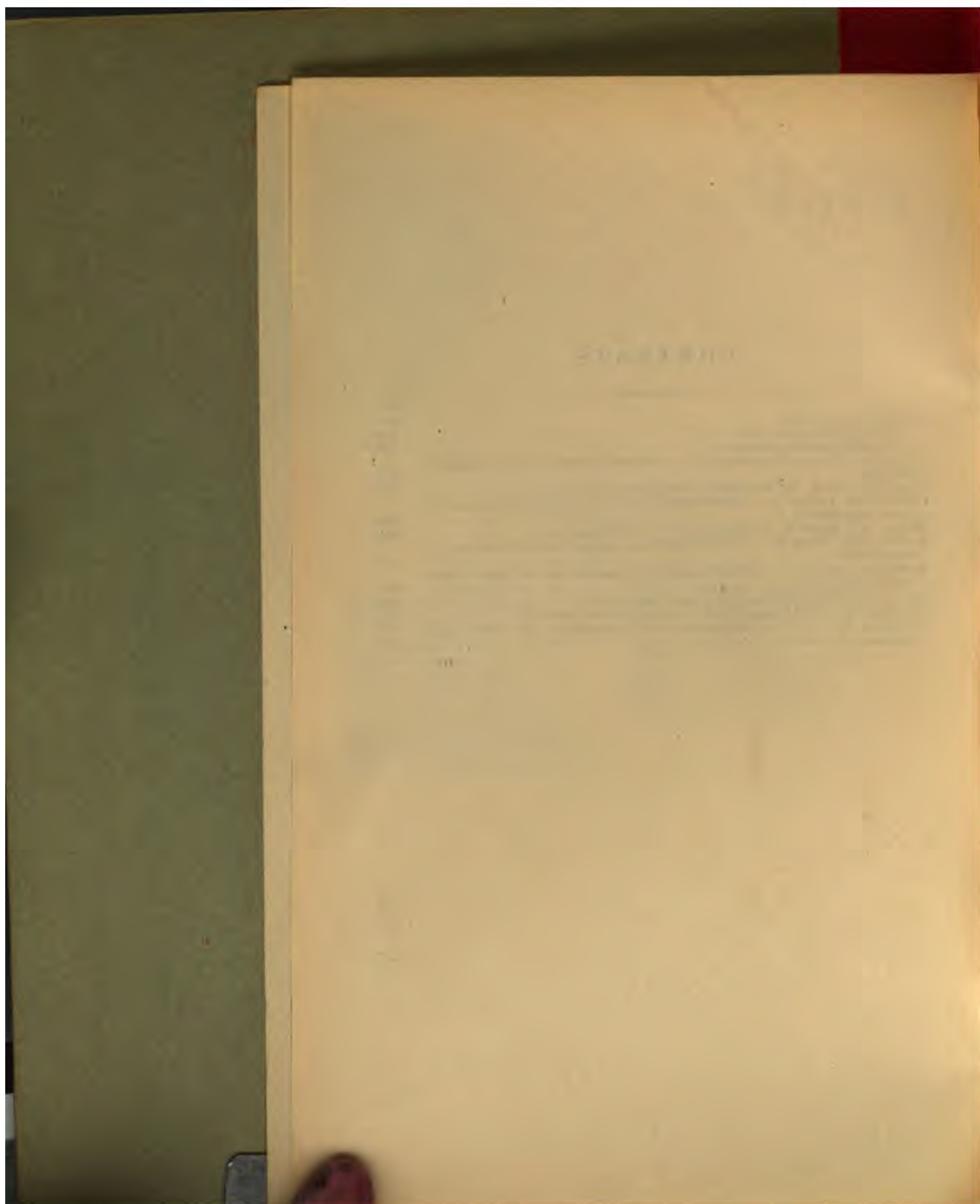
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III

pt. 12



SOLDIERS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION.

STATEMENT OF MAJ. JAMES M. HANLEY.

The CHAIRMAN. Maj. James M. Hanley, of Mandan, N. Dak., is here, and we will hear him now. Congressman Young tells me he is judge of the circuit court of North Dakota and a veteran who saw service in France.

Maj. HANLEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank you most sincerely for the opportunity to reflect the views of North Dakota service men. The honor is the more appreciated considering the fact that only members of the Legion have been given the privilege of making statements to the committee.

Mr. Chairman, the service men are asking the beneficial legislation proposed in this bill not as a bonus but as an adjustment of compensation arising out of war conditions. Men returning to civil life from the Army found that those who remained at home had received greatly increased compensation from their labor and service, with the result that the service men were placed at a financial disadvantage and found that in offering their lives to the Government they had suffered not only the dangers of the service but had suffered financially. The men seek no pay for their patriotism, but do ask that as far as possible their compensation be adjusted and that they be not left in a position of financial disadvantage as compared to the man who stayed at home. We believe this bill will meet the situation. It provides means under which farming projects may be acquired, homes procured, or vocational training pursued. It recognizes that many of the men are in a position where they can not exercise any one of these three options and for that reason provides for a cash compensation to fit their needs. There are many, and I am one of them, who do not need this compensation, and this situation is met by the clause in the bill which provides that before the adjustment is made that application must be made for it. On the other hand, the great majority, and particularly the private soldier, does need the relief, and it should be granted. As a member of the national executive committee of the American Legion I come as a representative of the service men of North Dakota. Telegrams and letters sent to me from practically every post in the State show an overwhelming sentiment in favor of this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I understand it is the desire of the committee to conclude the hearings to-day. For that reason I shall close with this brief, but, I assure you, very earnest appeal. The idea of beneficial legislation for the soldiers originated in Congress, and it has

in effect asked the service men to present their ideas of this legislation in the concrete form of a proposed bill. After careful consideration from the standpoint of the good of the country and justice to the service men this bill has been prepared. It is just and fair. It has practically the united support of the service men, and we ask that it have favorable action on the part of your committee and of Congress.

STATEMENT OF HON. SYDNEY E. MUDD, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

Mr. MUDD. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the Ways and Means Committee: So many plans for the relief of ex-service men have already been presented to you, and so much testimony is now before you for consideration, that I shall not attempt in this brief statement to advocate any special bill or plan of relief. You gentlemen are more familiar than am I as to how the necessary funds may be raised to give ex-soldiers their just deserts. I do want to say, however, that whatever is to be done in this direction should be done at once. Nearly a year and a half has elapsed since the signing of the armistice. During that time money has been appropriated for the elevation of Army officers to higher rank; this committee favorably reported a \$50,000,000 appropriation bill for the relief of suffering Poland; several millions are to be invested in flour for the people of suffering Europe; and yet an appropriation for suffering America is held up for months without action. When I go through my district and find ex-service men unable to secure positions because they have not the means of buying civilian clothes, I wonder if it has been just or wise for our country to act as fairy godmother to the stricken of foreign nations.

Would it not be better to first fulfill the duties of a parent to our own children? Can we not at least do as much as other countries are doing for their former soldiers? Canada, with a much smaller per capita of wealth, has already paid from \$200 to \$600 to each of her ex-service men—this in addition to truly liberal compensation to the wounded and disabled, and in addition to substantial relief in the form of homestead privileges and land grants. Great Britain, France, and nearly every other allied power has done more than have we, the richest of them all. The distinguished Secretary of the Treasury is afraid a bond issue will disrupt the finances of the Government. But had not these same soldiers responded so heroically to the call of duty, we might still be floating bond issue after bond issue to finance the prosecution of the war. And who will doubt but that we could have done it without disrupting the country's finances? Certainly it is going to cause increased taxation; but are not the American people willing to make the sacrifice? They have made sacrifices for much less worthy causes than this, and they will do so again. This is not a matter of charity, but justice. I would like to see the act finally adopted called a fair pay act rather than a bonus. We can not pay these heroes for their patriotism and their sacrifices; but we can in some degree compensate them on a commercial basis for the loss of their time.

I have talked with hundreds of soldiers in my district, and almost without exception they are in favor of a straight cash bonus, based on length of service. I personally believe this to be the most fair and most practicable plan that could be adopted. If we can not raise the money to pay \$50 per month for each month in service, then let us determine how much we can afford—if it is to be put on that basis, and pay them now, before funds have to be raised to provide old soldiers' homes for these same heroes.

STATEMENT OF HON. C. J. THOMPSON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF OHIO.

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, it seems to be the sentiment in Congress and the entire country that something should be done to more nearly equalize the conditions of those who served in the military service during the war and those who did not. The practical way to do this is to provide additional compensation for those that so served.

Our soldiers served in cootie-infested trenches; in mud and water at \$1 a day while noncombatants were living in luxury and reaping generous financial reward. A great Republic can not be ungrateful. Patriotism should be recognized in a substantial way. I have understood that some of our severely wounded in hospitals throughout the land are being approached by agents of the I. W. W. organization and invited to join it as a rebuke to the ingratitude of a great Government.

I believe the amount of \$50 per month proposed by the American Legion is just and reasonable and not excessive. It is perfectly well understood that provision must be made to provide the revenue to meet whatever compensation may be granted. To this end I have offered a bill, H. R. 12906, which provides a way to raise revenue by taxation of real estate sales. I have also introduced H. R. 12976 which is before your committee and proposes to tax advertising sales. Advertisers would certainly prefer this tax to a tax on surplus or individual incomes and it could be collected more economically and without evasion. There is too much waste in advertising; too much large space; too much money spent to evade income tax. Advertisers can use less space and get as good results. The Government will realize millions of revenue from such taxation. Magazines and periodicals are now being carried through the United States mails at an approximate loss to the Post Office Department of \$50,000,000 annually. By placing a tax on advertising space in all periodicals of 5,000 circulation or more having second-class mailing privileges the Government will be saved many thousands of dollars in transportation; and the shameful and profligate use of paper will be curtailed. This, of itself, will be beneficial as the supply is exceeding the demand and prices are rising.

I believe these two bills will raise sufficient revenue within a reasonable time to pay the bonds provided for, or a direct cash payment if the committee prefers, in its composite bill, not to issue bonds.

The great increase in value or price of real estate in three years through no effort of the holder or by any expense on his part of

either money or labor, has made him perhaps innocently a profiteer and the small tax of 1 per cent on real estate sales might be justly claimed. As the Government guarantees the enjoyment and right to property, it surely, of right, can claim a fee for transferring and continuing the right and privilege.

By exempting the small home from the tax removes the bill so far as any tax bill can be removed from objection. I am fully aware no tax bill can be devised that will make all the people happy, contented, and comfortable. But, it is a condition that confronts us. The Government needs the money. This tax does not interfere with any productive business which is now taxed to its interference. This tax is covered many, many times by a condition and not by effort. There is no expense for collecting this tax as no new offices or agency is necessary and the tax comes to the Government net. In view of all the facts and conditions confronting us, I ask your consideration of H. R. bills 12906 and H. R. 12976 as revenue raisers to be considered in the framing of any soldiers' additional compensation bill the committee, in its wisdom, may see fit and proper to bring out.

**STATEMENT OF HON. ANTHONY J. GRIFFIN, A REPRESENTATIVE
IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK.**

Mr. GRIFFIN. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, the bill H. R. 13333, which I have introduced, provides for the return to the members of the United States forces, of every arm, serving during the World War, of the premiums deducted from their pay for war-risk insurance and the refunding of all allotments deducted from the pay of the enlisted personnel for their dependents.

It is offered to your consideration as a compromise measure, as a way out of a most perplexing problem. It is founded upon the bed-rock principles of justice. It does not pauperize or humiliate, but returns to those who served their country honorably that to which they are justly entitled and restores to them and their families what, in my opinion, was unjustly taken away from them.

I submit to your careful consideration the thought, that in insuring the soldiers and sailors the Government was insuring its own human assets. Of course, the men were of insurable value to their dependents; but they were of greater insurable value to their dependents; but they were of greater insurable value to the Government. Otherwise they would not have been taken from their families to fight the battles of the entire people. It was therefore the duty of the Government to assume the burden of carrying that insurance; as much so as it was its duty to bear the cost of insuring its ships. If the soldier was killed in action it is true his family would have lost a wage earner; but the Government would have lost an asset even more valuable. To require the soldiers and sailors and their families to bear the burden of the premiums was wholly unjust and inequitable. The men should have received their \$30 a month without deduction or abatement. And the same is true of their allotments.

No allotments should have been charged against the pay of the men and the allowances based on the men's allotments should have

been the voluntary contribution of a grateful country for their sacrifices.

The attitude of the Government toward the enlisted personnel of our Army and Navy was picayune. It required the soldier to assume the risk of his calling—a risk which should have been assumed by the Government. It can not be corrected by making the men a present of a bonus. It can only be corrected by returning to them the money unjustly taken out of their meager salaries. If Congress will only take this stand it need not run the risk of humiliating them by the inevitable suggestion that they are the recipients of a bounty, a bonus, or gratuity—terms which are inherently offensive to all true Americans. Our maxim should be: "Be just before you are generous."

The war-risk insurance idea was not only founded upon an error in principle but all the complications, confusions, and red tape that followed were only the natural result of putting the soldier, serving his country for a mere pittance, in the same category as a well paid civil employee. To introduce a complicated system of book-keeping requiring records to be made on company pay rolls of deductions for war-risk insurance, as well as allotments, invited confusion and necessitated accounting and clerical work that was almost impossible to perform while the regiments were in the field or in action. There is not a member of Congress whose time has not been taken up in adjusting and straightening out the innumerable errors which have inevitably crept into so awkward and impossible a system.

And the labor is not done when the pay rolls are made out. All of the work has to be reviewed and gone over again when a soldier dies. Photostat copies of all the pay rolls are made, if extant, and the name of the deceased soldier followed down from month to month and all payments verified. The War Risk Insurance Bureau, notwithstanding the large force at its disposal, has not force enough, and never could have force enough, to keep up-to-date records of every soldier, sailor, and marine, as it ought to have. It should be required to halt where it is—make complete records of the standing of each soldier, sailor, and marine, and the Government should return to the men and their families all of the premiums so exacted.

The following policies or certificates of war-risk insurance are in force, March 29, 1920:

Army	\$3, 846, 008
Navy	489, 179
Marines	71, 664
Coast Guard	6, 618
Nurses, female	17, 112
Public Health	49
	<hr/> 4, 430, 630

The average service was eight months and the average premium was about \$5, or \$40, for each beneficiary for the average service. The return of the premiums would, therefore, entail an expense of \$177,225,200.

It is approximated that 4,200,000 of the enlisted personnel made allotments. Figuring the average allotment at \$15, and the average service as 8 months the amount due each beneficiary of this act will be \$120. The total amount of allotments to be returned will, therefore, be \$480,000,000.

Summarizing, the cost of returning insurance premiums will be... \$177, 225, 200
 The cost of returning allotments..... 480, 000, 000

Total cost entailed by this act..... 657, 225, 200

The bill provides that the money requisite to carry out the act may be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated and by the issuance of certificates of indebtedness bearing interest at 4½ per cent per annum, which can be met by small appropriations running over a term of years. The obstacle thrown in the way of those suggesting this relief is thereby removed and your committee is relieved of the unwelcome burden of providing for bond issues with their inevitable increase of taxation.

If Congress sees fit in the future to provide land or homes or borrowing facilities for soldiers, it is thus relieved of the task of deducting from the grant or gratuity or loan the amounts which the payment of a bonus would necessarily entail. For it would obviously be unjust to grant a bonus to all and land grants and gratuities to others without deducting the amount of the bonus received. The great bulk of the soldiers will prefer money in hand to land in the West; but all equally should have the right to avail themselves of land opportunities without deductions or, on the other hand, without gaining a greater advantage than their brothers who elect only to receive cash. This bill puts them all on the same basis.

In returning the war-risk insurance premiums and allotments you are rewarding the thoughtful considerate soldier who was solicitous for the welfare of his family. The selfish, indifferent soldier who took no thought of his dependents, but spent all his pay for his own gratification would not be helped by this bill, and it is not the intention that he should be. He has reveled in frivolity while his comrades made personal sacrifices. He has had his cake and has eaten it.

TELEGRAM FROM HON. SCOTT FERRIS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., March 15, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, D. C.:

The soldiers with whom I have talked, and I have consulted a great many of them, feel keenly that Congress should enact a law which would authorize the ex-service men the opportunity to have a Government loan of long tenure, and at a low rate of interest, for use in purchasing a suitable home. Their desire is to have the right not to be huddled together under some reclamation or drainage scheme, but to have the right to select a home in the community of their choice in the town or country and in the State of their choice. They do not desire the Government to give them anything. They are perfectly willing to submit to most rigid rules and regulations providing for repayment and safeguarding the Government funds, but they do feel very earnestly that this much recognition should be afforded them. The armistice was signed almost a year and a half ago and Congress has not been able to work out any suitable plan of this sort or agree to anything feasible for them. They are beginning to feel apprehensive that Congress is not going to agree to any substantial thing that will be of value to them. With this in mind and in the event Congress can not agree on some such suitable land policy, and it now seems apparent that they are not going to agree to such a plan, I very earnestly hope that your committee may work out and that Congress may finally pass a bill providing for a suitable compensation adjustment covering the period of time in which each and every honorably discharged ex-service man was engaged in the service, I hope this Congress may do that thing and not delay it until another Congress.

Such a delay would bring disappointment, unrest, and dissatisfaction with their Government which we can not afford to allow to prevail. I join with your committee fully in the thought that the burden of taxes is great and that the sources to raise money are difficult, but I am sure you will agree that even greater than this is the very grave necessity of maintaining the continued love and respect of the Nation's defenders' act. Readjustments of compensation allowed should not be considered as a gift or bonus, but simply a just adjudication of lost opportunities and financial sacrifices actually made in years gone by at the close of former wars. Land bounties and land script have been afforded the Nation's defenders, but the major portion of the public lands now are valueless, and this course can not be pursued. This readjustment of compensation may well be considered in lieu of land bounties or land script and would, it seems to me, be only meting out justice to the men who served in this war as it was in meting out justice to those who served in past wars. It is still fresh in the minds of the ex-service men as well as in the mind of the public that Congress found it necessary to appropriate a billion and a quarter dollars to the stockholders of railroads to guarantee their profits and make up deficits during Government control. They have likewise afforded additional guaranties for the railroads even after their return to private ownership. I hope the committee may not feel it necessary to deny to our soldiers this relief either in one or the other form, for it seems to me but justice and right from a generous Government to the 4,800,000 soldiers, sailors, and marines who have so recently served us. May I earnestly ask to be advised when the committee reports the bill and when it may be considered by Congress, as I desire to return and help with it in every conceivable way I can. They expect it; they need it; they are entitled to it. It is only what other countries are doing for their defenders. May I express the keenest hope that it will not fail.

SCOTT FERRIS.

LETTER FROM HON. FRANK W. MONDELL, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF WYOMING.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF FLOOR LEADER,
Washington, D. C., March 13, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
Chairman Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. FORDNEY: Mr. McRae, of the legislative committee of the American Legion, informs me that they desire to have a further hearing before your committee after a meeting of the executive committee of the legion which has been called for March 22. He has requested me to ask that they be given a hearing soon after that date.

Col. E. Lester Jones informs me of the calling of the meeting of the executive committee of the legion for March 22 and of the desire to have a hearing before your committee after that meeting.

I take it for granted that in view of these requests your committee will arrange for these hearings before taking any action.

Very truly, yours,

F. W. MONDELL.

LETTERS, TELEGRAMS, PETITIONS, ETC.

WASHINGTON, March 29, 1920.

REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY, M. C.,
Chairman Committee on Ways and Means, Capitol.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We, the members of the subcommittee appointed by you to abstract and prepare for publication in the hearings of the committee, the telegrams, letters, and other matter offered to the committee in respect to soldiers' benefit legislation, beg leave to report that in the opinion of the subcommittee the attached record

reflects fairly the opinion of those who filed petitions or who have written or wired to Congressmen.

GEORGE M. YOUNG, *Chairman*,
JOHN Q. TILSON,
JOHN N. GARNER.

ABSTRACT OF MATTER RECEIVED PRIOR TO BEGINNING OF REGULAR
HEARINGS.

Approximately 8,500 individuals and organizations communicated with the Ways and Means Committee on the subject of soldiers' adjusted compensation prior to March 2, 1920, when the hearings were reopened. These letters came from 36 States of the Union, the District of Columbia, and one letter from Canada. During this time but six communications were received against such legislation.

The great bulk of the petitions and form letters, the records show, were inspired by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, an organization composed entirely of men who saw foreign service with the armed forces of the United States in this last and prior wars. All of them urged, requested, or demanded the passage of H. R. 7923, introduced by Mr. Johnson of South Dakota, which bill provides for \$1 per day for each day of service with an additional \$100 to each man who saw foreign service.

By form and individual letters and by petition 7,113 persons placed themselves on record as favoring this measure, as did 14 posts of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 2 posts of the American Legion, 2 local soldiers' organizations, and a New York labor union.

The "\$50-bond-per-month" idea originating early this year was indorsed, according to the records in the committee, by 1,276 individuals and organizations, the latter including five posts of the American Legion and a Grand Army of the Republic post.

The Sherwood bill (H. R. 10373), which proposes a \$560 bonus in lieu of the \$60 paid by the revenue act of 1918, received 11 indorsements from individuals, and 2 from organizations, a post of the Private Soldiers' and Sailors' Legion of Washington, and a Michigan labor union.

Two communications were received on each of the following bills: H. R. 5545, H. R. 9093, and H. R. 12126. Four persons favored home, farm or reclaimed land loans, and two asked for an optional bonus or loan plan.

The tenor of the letters aboved referred to, their source (particularly those indorsing H. R. 7923) may be deduced from the following material received prior to March 2:

THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House of Congress, Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: You have before you for consideration, the Hon. Royal C. Johnson bill, which provides for the payment of back pay to the men who served our Government during the emergency, plus \$100 in the case of a man actually under fire.

We, the undersigned, appeal to your sense of justice and fair play. The bill, as it originally reads, must be accomplished. The world knows what these lads sacrificed. You now have the opportunity to prove your loyalty to this country, to prove that what you proclaimed concerning "backing up the boys" is not wind. Don't let the spirit of patriotism dwindle down to a mere spark through your lack of enthusiasm in behalf of those who bore the dint of the war business.

Dissension is bad for a country. That is the main feature when you will consider the propriety of the bill before you. About us we see the disconsolating outlook for the man whose services were no longer required by our Government. Employers have failed to maintain their promises. The men who did not don the uniform of the United States have invariably enriched themselves during the emergency—and to-day they are the ones who have decent employment, wear up-to-the-minute-tailored clothes, and smoke the finest brand of cigars—while the man who must now be dependent upon promises still wears his Army overcoat, being unable to buy himself civilian clothes because his bonus was eaten up in his endeavor to seek employment because his appearance has "Army" stamped all over. The soldier, sailor, or marine—God forgive us for overlooking the noble women who played their part so wonderfully, too—has too soon learned that he couldn't feed an empty stomach (no less the mouths of those dependent upon him) with promises. How could a man steep himself with love of country when the very men who shaped their destinies for them do their damndest to snuff out its life?

Give the boys their just deserves. Help them get back their original footing. The men who have served Uncle Sam, may, in the future, be called upon to preserve Americanism. How can you suffer to see such a wonderful body of men treated so shabbily? Who is more deserving of consideration than the man who was the cog in upholding the dignity of the Nation? You are employed to see that the proper thing is done and not placed in Congress to oppose. In your mind's eyes see yourself wearing an Army overcoat—then imagine all eyes upon you. Must such condition be brought about so that a man who served will feel ashamed when, in civilian life, he still wears a part of the uniform—the shield of the United States? Imagine yourself seeking employment in order to obtain the lifeblood for those you love. Now, realize how hugely you can serve with the little that is required to make contentment certain. For the price of a post-office building at some obscure creek, or a bridge across a mud puddle you can preserve the spirit of love of country, bring blessing upon yourself, incidentally warming the cockles of hearts of those who served.

The eyes of those who love our country are strained upon the outcome of the bill before you.

FRANK A. ADAMS,
2729 Church Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

PRIVATE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS LEGION,
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, D. C., October 1, 1919.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I note that the evening papers quote you as saying that you did not intend to take any action on legislation paying the discharged soldiers of the World War a bonus of \$500 or any other sum until after the convention of the Officers American Legion at Minneapolis in November; that you desire to wait until after that convention had spoken and then you would know what the soldiers themselves wanted.

I call your attention to the fact that the Officers American Legion represents but a fraction of the 4,000,000 private soldiers, and its position as voiced at the St. Louis Convention under the control and dictation of officers, was bitter opposition of the Officers American Legion as to any form of bonus; they are opposed to it, and you do not need to delay your action until their Minneapolis Convention to know where they stand.

If you want, as your statement indicates, to know what the "sentiments of the soldiers themselves" are on the question of a bonus, I suggest that you make an announcement to the country that you are willing to submit the question of the \$500 bonus to a referendum vote of the private soldiers of the World War, and that you ask each soldier to send in his vote by card or letter to the Ways and Means Committee—yes or no—as to whether he wants a \$500 bonus. This is the only way to get the "sentiment of the soldiers themselves." The Private Soldiers and Sailors Legion is in favor of the \$500 for each soldier. The Officers American Legion is opposed to the bonus. Such a test vote and

expression of opinion as I suggest you should call for would get their real wishes from the privates themselves.

Gladly accepting your expressions of friendliness for the soldiers I say: Come on now, Brother Fordney, and give the boys a fair chance to be heard by your committee, and then let your committee act promptly according to the expressed wish of the soldiers themselves, without waiting for the voice of any machine-made convention at Minneapolis or anywhere else.

Respectfully, yours,

MARVIN GATES SPERRY.
National President.

OCTOBER 6, 1919.

MR. MARVIN GATES SPERRY,
President Private Soldiers' and Sailors' Legion,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of October 1, and I note carefully all you say in regard to the proposed bonus for the soldiers and sailors of the recent war.

In reply, permit me to say that I was not aware that the American Legion was opposed to the bonus; neither was I aware that the organization was composed of officers only.

You ask me to go ahead and do something for the soldiers. My dear sir, I am but one of 435 Members of the House of Representatives, and although I am the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, to which committee bills providing for bonus must be referred, it is not possible for me to hurry these measures through the House at this time. It is the sentiment of the committee and of the House that no bills of this nature should be passed, or even taken up for consideration, at this session of Congress, but that we should wait to see what action the American Legion will take upon the question at their convention in November.

Personally, I am strongly in favor of doing something for the soldier boys; but to talk about haste in the matter is idle, for you can not railroad legislation through in these days. The Senate will take no action upon any measure sent to that body until after the peace treaty is out of the way.

Your letter is the very first I have received from any soldier asking for a \$500 bonus, though I understand that some of the Members of Congress have received such requests.

Very truly, yours,

PRIVATE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS LEGION,
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, D. C., October 12, 1919.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR CONGRESSMAN: On receipt of your letter of October 6, in the haste of business I made a brief acknowledgment of same, but as the matter under consideration in our correspondence is of such great importance to over 4,000,000 soldiers of the United States who were in the World War, I feel that I ought to say a word further to you in regard to the points raised in your letter. I hope that by so doing I may in some small measure aid in persuading yourself, as chairman, and the other members of the Ways and Means Committee and the Congress to take early action in doing the scant measure of justice which would be done by the payment to each soldier of a \$500 bonus to aid him in getting settled back from military life to something approaching the position he occupied before being taken into military service by the Government. Of course, a \$500 bonus will not by any means restore these young men to the situation they were in before the Government called them into the Army, but it will help.

First, let me say that I am surprised to know that you were not aware that the officers' "American Legion" was opposed to the bonus, for it is a fact that during their convention in St. Louis in May, every newspaper in the United States published it broadcast from one end of the country to the other, that under the influence of bitter speeches by Lieut. Col. Roosevelt and Col. Lindsley

in opposition to the payment of the bonus to the soldiers, the convention killed the bonus resolution by laying it on the table. I can not conceive of what more convincing evidence you would want than this fact to show that the officers' American Legion was opposed to the bonus. Further, my letter did not state that "that organization was composed of officers only," but that the American Legion was organized and is controlled by officers is a fact too plain to be doubted by any one experienced in public affairs.

Now, Congressman, I frankly concede that you are "but one of the 435 Members of the House of Representatives," but it is also true that you are "the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, to which committee bills providing for a bonus must be referred," and by virtue of that fact you are the most powerful single Member of the whole 435 Members of the House. And neither myself nor any other soldier or citizen will doubt that if you recommend and urge the passage of a bill to pay the \$500 to each soldier your leadership will be promptly followed by a large majority of the whole House. Hence we feel that as you possess the power, so you have the responsibility for the success or failure of immediate action in the House on the soldiers' \$500 bonus.

It is certainly an unprecedented course for a chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House to take, to say that the members of his committee will await the direction of an unofficial convention representing a minority faction of soldiers and a minute fraction of the citizens of the United States to decide for them whether the representatives of the people in the Congress shall enact or shall not enact a law affecting the welfare of four millions of soldiers and many millions of their families and dependents.

Should you as chairman of the great, controlling Ways and Means Committee of Congress take such a course as you indicate in your letter, it is certain to be construed by the American people as an abdication and surrender of your legislative functions as the lawmaking body of the United States to an unofficial, irresponsible convention of private citizens, who may quite likely be controlled by the secret influence of those wealthy individuals and corporations from whose enormous war profits the two billions of taxes to pay the \$500 bonus to the soldiers must be taken.

Just think for a moment, my dear Congressman, the delegates to the officers' American Legion convention are not elected Members of Congress to make laws for the people of the United States, as you and your colleagues in the Ways and Means Committee are; they owe no official responsibility to the soldiers and the people; their action for or against the bonus is subject to all kinds of secret and powerful influences inimical to the public welfare. For these and many other reasons upon no account should yourself and the other Members of the Congress of the United States keep the soldiers of our country waiting, with bitter winter coming on, for the uncertain and probably manipulated decision of a convention over which the giant profiteers will have every financial inducement to exercise control.

Mr. Chairman, I am glad to accept your statement, "I am strongly in favor of doing something for the soldier boys," but I respectfully disagree with you in your decision that it would be "haste in the matter" for Congress to act now, when it is almost a year since the armistice was signed. Surely it is no haste for Congress to do an act of justice to the soldiers after waiting almost a year from the time they left the battlefields under the armistice.

We have no fears that the peace treaty will delay action on the bonus bill in the Senate if you, Mr. Chairman, and the Ways and Means Committee, will take the necessary steps to pass it through the House.

As to whether the soldiers themselves want Congress to enact the bonus law, surely you can not say my letter is the only one, for the Hearst newspapers presented to the House through a Member of that body a petition for the bonus law signed by more than a million soldiers, and I understand that from numerous other bodies petitions to the same effect have been presented to the House. The action of the Government in taking the four millions of soldiers from their homes and their peaceful pursuits and placing them in the ranks of war was done swiftly enough; why, then, should there be so much delay in doing the scant measure of justice to the soldier which the \$500-bonus bill calls for?

Trusting that in the light of these facts you will place the public interests and the rights of the soldiers above the interests or wishes of any private corporation, whether it is the officers' American Legion or any other, I remain,

Sincerely, yours,

MARVIN GATES SPERRY,
National President.

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 14, 1919.

GENTLEMEN: We know what we want and we are going to make a fight for it. By "we" I mean the "veterans" (not stay-at-homes) of this war. I am just a wee unit, but it takes the units to make the tens, the tens the hundreds, the hundreds the thousands, and so on up to a million; and we are over a million, and believe me, gentlemen, that million and over of units are going to make an awful uproar—one that will be felt as well as heard—and they are amongst your constituents and you are going to hear from them. They will make themselves heard. And their "battle cry" is "We want the Royal C. Johnson bill to be put before Congress and we want it passed before Congress adjourns."

Respectfully, yours,

JAMES HOLMES.

General legislative committee from national headquarters have introduced a bill in Congress granting all ex-soldiers, ex-sailors, ex-marines back pay \$30 a month from the date of enlistment until the date of discharge; also \$100 additional bonus for men who served on the firing line. It is very important that every comrade write a personal letter to the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives at Washington, D. C., urging them to make a favorable report on the Royal C. Johnson bill and report the bill out of the committee room for action by the House of Representatives; also write to individual Congressmen a similar letter, asking them to support the bill. This is the opportunity of our life to do something for the overseas men; will you do this? If so, write at once and advise Comrade John W. Faid, jr., Lansdowne, Md.

All comrades please be present at next meeting, Sunday, October 26, at 2 p. m.

Yours, in comradeship,

WILLIAM A. MILLER,

Commander Schley Post No. 65, Veterans of Foreign Wars,
312 South Smallwood Street, Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 14, 1919.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I regret very much that it seems necessary to write to you and ask your assistance in the matter of waking up the committee of which you are chairman; but it seems absolutely necessary, as they seem to take delight in sitting up there on a bunch of bills (which concern us) like a hen sitting on a nest full of eggs, only the hen gets some results, which is more than I can say for the Ways and Means.

The Royal C. Johnson bill, providing a bonus for every soldier, sailor, and marine that was in the service during the war, is receiving no attention.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, an organization composed of over a million men, every one of whom has at least one gold chevron on his left sleeve and a great many who have their right sleeve adorned with wound marks, ask that the above bill be brought up and passed before this session of Congress adjourns; so why not start something?

Hoping you will deem this worthy of your sincere consideration, I beg to remain,

Yours, most respectfully,

JAMES E. BALCOM.

JOHNSTOWN, PA., October 25, 1919.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: There has been introduced in the present Congress by Hon. Royal C. Johnson a bill providing for certain compensation for soldiers, sailors, and marines who enlisted in and served during the World War.

Your attention is called to the fact that many of our boys—in fact, a great majority of them—left lucrative positions and willingly went into the service at a great pecuniary loss. It is further called to your attention that in many instances the jobs of our boys were taken by alien slackers, and that not only these persons but also all those remaining at home during the war earned unusually large salaries—much greater than the earnings of the boys in service, even if the Johnson bill passes. The boys in the service also faced dangers and suffered many hardships, while the money makers had the comfort of home and enjoyed the advantages of prosperous times. In fairness it is submitted that this bill should pass.

Very truly, yours,

LOUIS REPP.

601 TWENTY-THIRD STREET NW.,
Washington, D. C., October 31, 1919.

The honorable Mr. FORDNEY.

House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

(Attention of the Ways and Means Committee.)

DEAR SIR: Your letter received some time ago regarding the Royal C. Johnson bill, which provides bonus for those who were in the United States service during the past war.

I regret very much that there is still a decided lack of action on the matter. The matter of the bill again came up before the meeting of the Veterans of Foreign Wars last Monday, and everyone is wondering why no action is being taken.

May I ask you to explain just what the delay in the matter seems to be?

Everyone thinks that it is about time that some action was taken, and are at a loss to understand just what is causing all the inaction.

There seems to be absolutely no reason why the bill can not be acted upon this session of Congress. Don't wait until the war is classed with all the rest of the ancient history of Greece and Rome. Get action.

Very respectfully, yours,

JAMES E. BALCOM,
Chairman Publicity Committee, Veterans of Foreign Wars,
National Capital Post, No. 127.

ALBANY, N. Y., November 1, 1919.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I have been informed that the Hon. Royal C. Johnson, of South Dakota, has introduced a bill which proposed to give to all honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines a bonus of \$30 for every month they were in the Federal service and \$100 to those who were under actual fire.

All the men of the country who served in the World War are naturally behind this movement and I earnestly request that your committee take favorable action thereon.

Very truly, yours,

ANDREW J. SKELLY,
184 Colonie Street, Albany, N. Y.

ARGONNE POST No. 107,
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Brooklyn, N. Y., November 6, 1919.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: The writer is taking this occasion to demand that the Royal C. Johnson bill, which gives to every honorably discharged soldier, sailor, and marine back pay at the rate of \$30 per month, etc., be immediately reported out.

If you gentlemen were to consider just what this bill means to the men who have done the actual fighting, who have given two of the best years of their lives in the cause of their beloved country, and who have suffered the vicissitudes

tudes attendant thereon; if you yourselves were, from actual experience, about to meet with the many and varied problems which are the inevitable outgrowth of the transitory period through which they are now passing, I feel sure that there would not be a moment's hesitation, on your part, in reporting this bill out.

May I, then, look for prompt and decisive action from you? I am, gentlemen, Very respectfully, yours,

ALVAH BOOKER STETSON, *Adjutant.*

BRICKLAYERS' AND MASONS' UNION, No. 37.
New York, November 12, 1919.

HON. CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.

DEAR SIR: Bricklayers' Union No. 37 at its last meeting, held on November 11, 1919, indorsed the Royal C. Johnson bill pertaining to soldiers, sailors, and marines' pay, and request that you please do all in your power to see the bill through.

Thanking you in advance.
Fraternally, yours,

PETER I. LEE,
*Secretary No. 37, New York,
525 East Eighty-third Street.*

(Bricklayers' union seal.)

601 TWENTY-THIRD STREET NW.,
Washington, D. C., December 19, 1919.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
The Ways and Means Committee.

DEAR SIR: Will you kindly see that the committee gives a favorable and prompt report on bill H. R. 7923, so that it will at once come up before Congress.

Just what the delay is caused by no one can see, but it is evident that this bill is receiving little or no attention.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars are backing this bill heart and hand, and they would appreciate a little immediate attention.

As long as this bill has been pending, it is certainly high time that some action was taken on the matter, as the delay is certainly not improving the public opinion of the way these matters are being handled by the Ways and Means Committee.

I thank you.

JAMES E. BALCOM,
*Senior Vice Commander Equality Post 284,
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.*

226 WEST ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH STREET,
New York City, February 19, 1920.

MR. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
*Chairman Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives.*

DEAR SIR: Just received the statement of ex-Representative Walter M. Chandler in behalf of the non-Russian Republics of Esthonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Azerbaidjan, and Georgia.

I always understood that Mr. Chandler and other Members of Congress and the House of Representatives were Americans and for America, but of late all we ever hear of them is something regarding "Poor Europe." Will you kindly tell me why there is so little said about these United States of ours?

Before I went "overseas" all I had drummed into me was "Pour la France." All the newspapers told of the starving people. Where were they? I was in France, Luxembourg, Belgium, and Germany, and I never yet saw anyone starving, unless perhaps it was some of our own troops that were hungry for the white bread that was supposed to come over to us. Please tell me who on the "other side" got all of the sugar that was sent over and the flour? "Pour la France," I suppose.

While my mother was trying to get along on the money I allotted to her and had to pay high prices for everything, along with a war tax, food was going over to Europe. Did our troops get it? Very little. But during part of the Meuse-Argonne offensive I had occasion to visit the town of Bar-le-Duc, which then was about 40 kilometers from the front. I had been fed on corned "Willie" so much that I thought I would try to get a real meal. Going to a "Froggie" hotel, I ordered dinner; here is what I got: Roast chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, salad, olives, bread and butter, coffee, beer, and a lot of other things, all for less than a dollar, and most all American products. "How come," and my mother would have had to pay more than twice that much?

And yet most of our Representatives, who were elected "by the people and for the people" of this country, are forever trying to dope out some way to loan money to a bunch of people thousands of miles from here on practically no security, while right at home here there are some four or five million men who have been in service and were presented with a bonus of \$60 by the greatest and richest country in the world.

It sure is a funny system. This Government taxes its people, including the ex-service men, gets a lot of money, loans it to a foreign country, that country gives it to its ex-soldiers and gives them a new start in life, while here we pay the taxes and are S. O. L. as usual. However, there are more elections coming and there are those same four or five million men, over half of whom were overseas, who saw conditions and are wondering about certain things, such as, why the cost of clothes is so high, higher even than in Germany, and why there is so much interest by certain of our Government officials in foreign countries. Where is the plum?

Oh, why haven't we got a man like Teddy Roosevelt, some one who is not afraid to say "To h— with Europe," and then go ahead and clean things up in this country.

Perhaps at the coming elections there will be a few millions of us coming out and saying just that. At any rate I think it would be advisable for quite a few of our officials to start now to look for another job. What do you think?

Mr. Fordney, I wrote this to you because you are chairman of the committee. Ordinarily I would have written to a New York Representative, but I think it will do more good to address it to you.

In closing I think I can feel quite safe in saying that I express the opinion of the men of the A. E. F. in this, that we are getting sick and tired of Congress meddling in European affairs; that it is high time that they turned their attention to this country; that instead of advancing so much money to other powers some of it be expended in a substantial bonus to the ex-soldiers; that they be Americans and be for America first, last, and all the time; and "To h— with Europe, think of the United States."

In all sincerity, I am,

CLIFFORD W. HEARD,
Formerly a Buck Private.

but now controlling one vote, and that vote is for America.

H. R. 7023, JOHNSON BILL.

FEBRUARY 9, 1920.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: Organized efforts on the part of soldiers of the World War are being made everywhere to bring about the reporting out of the above bill. Action on bills favoring the veterans will be closely scrutinized, and it is quite possible that in the next elections the "soldier vote" will be more successfully mobilized than is generally anticipated.

The substitute bills recommended in place of the "staggering" provisions of the Johnson bill are halfway, half-hearted measures and not calculated to alleviate the pinch which is being felt more to-day by war veterans than any other class of citizens.

Immediate, potent action of some kind is necessary, and is not, as some would have the legislators think, "a charity," but a positive duty.

Very truly, yours,

H. B. FREDERICK,
*Late Captain, One Hundred and Eighth Machine Gun Battalion,
American Expeditionary Forces.*

165 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY,
February 27, 1920.

CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

SIR: I am informed that the House has referred all bills dealing with soldiers' bonuses to your committee with instructions to report a measure for the payment of bonuses to soldiers of the World War.

If it should be decided to pay such a bonus I respectfully suggest to you the advisability of paying it not in the form of cash or bonds, but in the form of credits which can be used by the soldier for the payment of his premiums on his war-risk insurance as they fall due.

If the bonus be paid in cash it will, in many cases, immediately be spent and the soldier and his dependents will not derive the maximum good from it. If, on the other hand, the bonus is used for the payment of premiums it would seem to me that the following benefits will result:

1. The dependents of the soldier will derive a direct benefit, inasmuch as they will be protected in the event of the soldier's death.

2. The soldier will be enabled to carry his insurance protection without cost for a considerable time (if the bonus be \$50 for each month of service the minimum time will probably be about 10 years, but, of course, this will depend upon the amount of insurance which he has and the number of months which he served).

3. It will result in billions of insurance being reinstated, as the soldier will be enabled to carry his insurance protection without cost during the time when he is rearranging and reconstructing his personal affairs.

4. It will relieve the War Risk Insurance Bureau of much detail work during the next five years and that time can be devoted to putting the records of the bureau in a more accurate condition.

5. It will obviate the necessity of the issue of another loan by the Government to take care of these bonuses (in a newspaper before me it is stated that the amount of such a loan would be \$2,000,000,000), as the necessary disbursements and funding operations could be extended over a period of years and a large flotation would not be required at this time.

I have given considerable thought to the necessary steps to make such a plan practical, and if in the opinion of your committee the idea possesses sufficient merit to justify further consideration I would be glad to be of such assistance to you as I can.

Very respectfully,

S. H. WOLFE,
*Formerly Colonel, Quartermaster Corps,
and Assistant Director of Finance, United States Army.*

NEW YORK, March 1, 1920.

CHAIRMAN OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
The House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

HONORABLE SIR: I understand your committee now has under advisement the question of what is to be done about the ex-soldiers' bonuses.

I do not belong to the American Legion, and am not "tooting their horn," but I was a soldier in the war, and through the failure of the United States to pay my wife the allotment that I made for over a year I lost what little I had accumulated previous to the war, and as I received barely enough to take me home when I was discharged and not nearly enough to buy me a civilian outfit of clothes I have been living from hand to mouth ever since.

I have talked to many ex-service men since I was discharged, and in 9 cases out of 10 their predicament is the same as my own; some of them, and not a few, are veritable "Bolsheviki" in their denunciation of the Government for failure to make any provision for them, and call attention to the fact that even the French and British Governments did not discharge their men with barely a railroad ticket to the place of enlistment. To my own personal knowledge, the French Government, in addition to paying a liberal bonus, gave to each discharged soldier a good woolen suit, made to his measure, that would cost you in this country not less than \$85 at the prevailing prices.

I have not been in favor of the American Legion for the reason that it appears to have been organized for political purposes; at least, it was conceived by a politician, who, no doubt, will have occasion to use it later on. But I want to say to you that, in my opinion, the United States Government has

more to fear from that organization if something is not done to satisfy the just claims of the ex-soldiers than they have ever had or will ever have to fear the Bolsheviks of the European variety. I mean the soap-box variety, a great many of whom were recently deported; and I am not alone in this belief, for in addition to their resentment that was and is still felt by the draftees there is now added the ill feeling caused by the failure of the Government to do anything for them after the war was won. In other words, they feel that they were regarded as all right and fine fellows as long as the Government needed them, but when they need the Government it is not there.

I was a corporal in the war—was for a year, and the hardest year of the war, chief operator in the telegraph office at Chaumont and later chief operator for the press section, charged with the responsibility of getting news from the front back home to almost 90,000,000 readers, a job that in civil life would pay you in the neighborhood of \$350 a month, or about that of a lieutenant colonel in the Army. But I have no grumble on that score. I think it was a higher honor than a rank, and I asked nothing better than to be able to serve my country in a time of need. Now I need the country, as do some millions of other ex-service men. Is it there when we need it? It seems to be up to your committee to decide.

Sincerely, yours,

JAMES P. WILSON,

Formerly No. 202140, Twelfth United States Engineers (Railway).

First Depot Battalion, Signal Corps, General Headquarters,

and Second Censor and Press Company.

ABSTRACT OF MATTER RECEIVED AFTER HEARINGS BEGAN.

Since the hearings began on March 2, and up to March 24 when they were closed, the committee received 1,332 communications, letters, telegrams, and petitions, exclusive of a petition from the veterans of foreign wars containing several thousand names. In addition, approximately 1,500 communications from individuals and organizations were referred to the committee from the House of Representatives or by Members of Congress direct.

Of the 1,332 communications received by the committee, 755 of them favored a cash bonus, while 102 were opposed to a bonus in any form for able-bodied ex-service men. The balance of the communications, 475 in number, favored adjusted compensation in some form, the majority urging the \$50-bond-per-month idea and loans for the purchase of homes or farms.

It might be stated that of the communications received favoring the Mondell bill, nearly all of them were from commercial organizations. The city of Cleveland, Ohio, through its council adopted a resolution favoring adjusted compensation.

With but few exceptions this latter propaganda came from or was inspired by the American Legion posts throughout the country, the Private Soldiers' and Sailors' Legion, the World War Veterans (Inc.), and the Rank and File Veterans' Association. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, through their national headquarters, were instructed to cease temporarily their endeavors in behalf of the Royal C. Johnson bill when the date of the hearings was announced. Outside of this organization and the American Legion, the other associations for the most part urged a \$500 cash bonus over and above the \$60 bonus given on discharge.

While the posts of the American Legion throughout the country are considerably divided as to the form the adjusted compensation should take, the communications to the committee indicate that the majority of them favor either cash or bonds on the basis of \$50 per month for each month of service.

It would be impossible to print all of the thousands of letters, telegrams, petitions, and other communications received, but the subcommittee has made a careful examination of them and believes that the matter appended herewith reflects fairly well the sentiment of the various sections of the country.

Two interesting letters—one from a Civil War veteran opposing the bonus and the other the reply of a World War veteran in favor of it—which were submitted to the committee by the writers after the letters had appeared in the Indianapolis News, are appended because of the interesting contrast they present.

The balance of the material is divided into two groups—those favoring adjusted compensation in some form or other and those opposed to it.

Of the first group, no explanation is necessary. The second group, however, does not necessarily mean that all the communications are opposed to the bonus in all respects.

THE CIVIL WAR AND THE WORLD WAR—A CONTRAST.

[From Indianapolis News, Mar. 5, 1920.]

A CIVIL WAR VETERAN'S VIEW OF SOLDIER BONUS DEMANDS.

To the editor of the News:

SIR: By way of contrast between the ex-soldiers of the Civil War and the ex-soldiers of the late war, who were America's contribution in defeating the Central Powers, I will enumerate some of my personal experiences as a soldier of the Civil War, bearing in mind that thousands of my old companions in arms had a similar experience. The pay, food, clothing, arms, munitions, medical, and surgical equipment were very inferior as compared with the late war. I served with a regiment that left a trail of blood on many battle fields. It fell short by a small per cent of being listed among the 300 fighting regiments. I wore coarse, ill-fitting clothes and shoes. My regular fare was crackers, meat, coffee, and sugar. At rare intervals I feasted on beans, rice, and desiccated vegetables. My only shelter for fully two-thirds of my time was a little shelter tent that would turn a very light rain, but was not of much benefit during a heavy rain. Many a farmer to-day is taking better care of his hogs than the Government took of us during the terrible years between '61 and '65. No sanitary precautions for us, no Red Cross, no butter or milk, no cigarettes, no candy, no movies, no high-salaried actors or singers to entertain us, no dentists to care for our teeth. Sometimes our stomachs would rebel against the monotonous diet. We would fast a day or two, then outraged nature would assert itself and we would relish hardtack and sowbelly.

I never had any of my equipment hauled, never missed but one roll call, consequently I participated in every engagement or march in which my regiment took part after I joined it. I served a little less than two years; was too young when the war began. I was fortunate, or unfortunate, according to the viewpoint, to escape wounds and disease. Consequently I was mustered out without a hospital record. I received my first pension, \$8 a month, June, 1896, more than 31 years after the end of the war. After the small remnant of my old company was mustered out, we contributed \$100 to buy an artificial leg for one of our comrades (a poor, destitute boy), who had left one of his on the firing line. Those who lost limbs had to buy one or go without, unless sweet charity came to their relief. We didn't expect pensions except for wounds received in action.

I didn't come home with suitcases bulging with the best quality of Government clothing, shoes, and blankets, my breast bedecked with crosses and medals galore—only my old Fifteenth Corps badge. The next day after I got home I went to work binding oats, I didn't ask the Government to give me a job. I did not ask for a \$50 bonus a month for every month I had served. I didn't ask the Government to pay my way to finish my unfinished education. From '61 to '65 the cost of living was about as high as it is to-day. I was

satisfied with what I had saved out of my \$13 to \$16 a month. I buckled down to work and didn't play the baby act. The unseemly scramble of some of the officers and men of the Navy for medals and decorations is unworthy of a red-blooded American. Unless the American Legion ceases its selfish demands on the Government for more money it will soon be classed with the labor unions—out of touch, our sympathy with 90 per cent of the people of the United States.

L. B. L.

CLAY CITY, IND.

[From Indianapolis News, Mar. 11, 1920.]

WORLD WAR SOLDIER'S REPLY TO CIVIL WAR VETERAN'S VIEWS.

To the editor of the News.

SIR: I have read with interest the letter of L. B. L., a Civil War veteran, in the News of Friday evening, March 5. May I be permitted a few words in reply?

You, L. B. L., have my salute and my respect. You are my brother; the brotherhood of those who have slept on the bare ground in winter. I know what you went through, or some of it. I learned of it from my grandfather. When he came back, after four years, all that he had in property left was the silver spoons that my grandmother had sewed into her woolen petticoat. Their little holdings had been in the path of an Army. I myself disposed of my business at such a loss in 1917 that of six years' work I had nothing left save my good name. I did this in order to volunteer. Thank God I did volunteer. It may be as you say, that I am out of touch, out of sympathy, with 90 per cent of the people of the United States. I wasn't then.

I have read, sir, your personal experiences. I can feel for you. You wore coarse, ill-fitting clothes and shoes. Ours were nothing wonderful either, but when you are covered with a thick coat of Flanders mud it doesn't matter much about the fit.

Your fare was crackers, meat, coffee, and sugar. The fare of our men, brigaded with British troops, was salt fish, goat meat or salt pork, plum and apple jam, always with a taste of gasoline in it, tea, cheese, and war bread—not the kind you bought from bakers at home. Sugar; we didn't know what it meant.

No sanitary precautions in '61. We had running water (in every dugout). No Red Cross in '61. Praise God that we had, and some of them were His own representatives on earth. "No cigarettes; no candy; no movies." Sometimes we could buy those things from the Y. M. C. A. Be thankful, brother of '61, that you had no "Y." If you had you would not have saved anything from that pay, even though it was \$16 and ours \$33.

"No butter; no milk." Did you think that we had any, my brother? And as for cigarettes and candy, where did you get the idea we had them? The boys in the French base ports did, I know, but the ones in England, at the front, brigaded with the British, how about them? For seven months I personally never tasted sugar. I never had an issue of candy or tobacco. I never got paid. Moreover, most of this time there was not even salt issued to the mess or used in the cooking.

In your war, brother, the good people of the country did not subscribe countless sums for furnishing the little comforts of which you speak to their soldiers. You didn't get those things; neither did we. What's the difference?

Like you, my brother, I served a little less than two years, but unlike you I didn't go to work the next day. After my discharge from the hospital I had to wait five months before I had enough strength. My first job lasted three weeks. It was in the store of a pro-German. I went to the United States Employment Agency. The man in charge was very kind to me. He arranged especially that I have an interview with a prominent man in the city who is a large employer of men of my trade and who promised to help me. I waited all day in front of that man's private office. I sent in the card from the employment office but he wouldn't see me. One of his clerks gave me an application blank of some sort to fill out. I have never heard from it. In what city did this occur? In the capital of Indiana.

I took a civil service examination for clerk in the War Risk Insurance Department and eventually was notified that I had passed, but never have been notified to report. During all this time—about six months—I had only the

seven months' back pay that I didn't get overseas and the bonus of \$60, or one pair of civilian pants.

I have a job here in Terre Haute now. I got it by answering newspaper advertisements. It's not so much of a job, but all I am worth now as I contracted neuritis and sinusitis in the service. I can live and save a little, but, of course, marriage is out of the question on my pay, nor can I expect more.

That's my experience, brother of '61. I know we had lots of things you didn't have. By the way, were you or any of your buddies ever gassed; did you ever get a touch of liquid fire; did you ever help put away the remains of a bombed nurse; did you ever duck for cover when some flying Dutchman took a notion to drop eggs on a base hospital; were any of your buddies crucified on the barn doors; how many northern women did you see with the right arm off below the elbow and carrying the child of the foe in the left; how far could those Johnny Rebs throw a potato masher; did you have a tough time with tanks and coal boxes and whizz bangs and minnenwerfers? And, say, didn't the sun shine once in a while where you were, and did the slackers take away your applejack while you were gone?

It's all right, old timer. You served. I served. You would do it again. So would I, as my grandfather did, as my grandson probably will, should I have one, while the slacker with his grandfather and grandson have or will clean up all the needful for automobiles, bonds, etc., that we made safe for them.

Oh, yes; we don't have to pay for hunting licenses in Indiana. I understand they did a little more for you, brother, and now there's nothing to hunt but "blind pigs" any way.

Farewell, old G. A. R. If all goes well we will meet in heaven; if it does not, we will meet in London or Tokyo. Ninety per cent of the people of the United States may be "out of sympathy" with us, but we are strong for them.

S. S.,

Of the American Legion.

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

COMMUNICATIONS FAVORING ADJUSTED COMPENSATION.

NATIONAL WHOLESALE LUMBER DEALERS' ASSOCIATION,
New York, April 3, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I beg to advise you that at the annual meeting of the National Wholesale Lumber Dealers' Association, held at Washington, D. C., March 24 and 25, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Whereas it is now nearly a year and a half since the signing of the armistice, our Army and Navy have been demobilized, and the men returned to their civilian states; and

"Whereas large numbers of our citizens served as soldiers, sailors, and marines, at a great financial loss to themselves and their families, to the effect that the horrors of Europe were not brought to the shores of this country; and

"Whereas Congress has not seen fit to award to these veterans the compensation and appreciation that is their due: Be it

"Resolved, That the National Wholesale Lumber Dealers' Association, representing a part of the business interests of this country, in convention assembled, give their moral support and backing to the bill drawn by the American Legion, the association of war veterans, representing their claims for consideration and to be known as the 'National soldiers' land-settlement, home-aid, vocational-training, and adjusted-compensation act,' which bill permits a veteran to elect to receive one of the four mentioned projects of beneficial legislation; and be it further

"Resolved, That the secretary of this association transmit this resolution to Congressman Joseph W. Fordney, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives."

Respectfully.

E. F. PERRY, *Secretary.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.
UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., March 10, 1920.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I am writing you in connection with reference to bonus bills pending now before you for ex-service men.

From my experience in employing men at this institution it is very evident that the men who have been discharged from the service have inadequate funds with which to begin anew civil life. Many of them have applied to me for positions the past winter with insufficient clothing and many with threadbare overcoats and clothing. The conditions were deplorable, and made a lasting impression on my mind to the effect that a bonus must be given these men who so willingly gave up civilian life to don the uniform of Uncle Sam and fight for their country.

Of all bills pending now before you for consideration, I am heartily in favor of a bill providing a certain sum for each month in service. In this way I believe justice may be done to men who served the longest.

Hoping that legislation may be soon enacted for cash bonus for ex-service, I am,

Respectfully, yours,

R. A. FRY.
Formerly of United States Navy.

PRIVATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' LEGION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, D. C., March 6, 1920.

To the Members of the House of Representatives and Senators.

DEAR SIR: We respectfully ask your friendly consideration and support for H. R. 10373, introduced by Gen. I. R. Sherwood, of Ohio.

First, because it makes no discrimination between the demobilized soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in the World War, but pays an equal sum of \$500 to each, regardless of rank or kind of service.

Second, it avoids the error of many other pending bills, which apparently treat the demobilized soldiers as if they were men who had made some kind of mercenary bargain with the Government to serve the Nation for money—\$30 a month during the war.

Third, it eliminates a bad feature of many of the other bills which provide that soldiers shall be paid their extra compensation in bonds, when as a matter of fact it is against the best interests of both the soldiers and the Government to make this payment in bonds. The private soldiers who need this help do not need bonds; they need cash, and it is far better both for the soldier and for the Government to pay in cash than in bonds, for bonds must be paid three times, cash but once.

Fourth, the payment of \$500 to each person who served in the military and naval forces during the World War, as provided in the Sherwood bill, is not a payment in settlement of a commercial transaction, or a settlement of a contract that was made by the soldiers for a monetary consideration. The soldier's service was given in the World War as a patriotic, moral obligation, so the service which the Government should render the demobilized soldier is a service in performance of a duty which the Government morally owes the soldier citizen and which can not be measured or paid merely with dollars and cents.

Fifth, the soldier of the United States went to war not for money but for liberty, not merely political liberty, but economic liberty. His services may not be paid for in cash, but in kind, and a bonus of \$500 is simply one step in the moral obligation which the Government owes him in return for his services. It gives him a little of that freedom of economic choice in the opportunity to earn his living, without which the citizens of our country and no other country can truthfully be said to be free men, enjoying the blessings of liberty and equal opportunity in life. Our soldier's services to our country in its need was not a bargain but a gift; an equal offer of sacrifice by all. Their reward should not be a money payment for so many days work, but a guarantee to them by our Government of that equal economic liberty which is the birthright of all.

Very sincerely, yours,

MARVIN GATES SPERRY,
National President.

PRIVATE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' LEGION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, D. C., March 12, 1920.

Hon. Jos. W. FORDNEY,

Chairman, and Members of Ways and Means Committee,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: I have been informed that one, S. Lovenbein, representing an alleged soldiers' organization called the Rank and File and World War Veterans, claimed to your committee that he had received the indorsement of the Central Labor Union of Washington. The fact is that Lovenbein appeared before the Central Labor Union, asking indorsement of himself and the above organizations and his defunct publication, and after investigation by a committee, which reported unfavorably, the indorsement was not only refused, but Lovenbein was ordered from the room by the presiding officer and told to go elsewhere for his easy money. Lovenbein was asking for moral and financial support and suggested that about \$10 from each of the 91 unions affiliated with the Central Labor Union would be satisfactory, and when it was suggested that many members of the various unions were ex-soldiers and he could get many members for his organization, stated that he was in no hurry for the members, but needed the money—\$10 per.

I was present at the meeting, being entitled to a seat in the hall by reason of membership in Columbia Typographical Union No. 101 of this city.

I have the honor of presiding over Union Legion No. 3, Private Soldiers and Sailors' Legion of the United States. I was present at the meeting in the interest of the Private Soldiers and Sailors' Legion.

Respectfully yours,

RALEIGH M. BLACK,
President Union Legion No. 3.

FLORENCE, ALA., March 12, 1920.

Hon. E. B. ALMON,

Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: The Florence post of the American Legion, at its regular meeting Thursday night, unanimously went on record as favoring some measure calculated to give material financial assistance to the ex-service men.

They do not look upon it as a gift, but in view of the high salaries paid other Government employees during the emergency, and in view of the fact that the ex-service men, by way of comparison, not only suffered a serious financial loss but that in many cases they sustained an even more serious loss, in that they were put back from one to three years in their professions and businesses, they consider that material Government assistance is their due, and that it is necessary in order that they may be put in a position to compete with those who stayed at home and profited by reason of the abnormal conditions.

To the soldier who patriotically gave his services to his country and worked from reveille until retreat for \$1 a day it does not appear to be consistent with fairness and justice that our Government should overlook the fact that at the same time, in the same camps, the commonest negro laborer was paid \$4.50 and \$5 a day. We insist that we are not asking for a gift, but that we are asking for a fair and adequate compensation for services rendered.

It was the will of all present at this meeting that the chair appoint this committee and instruct them to communicate with you, urging that you give careful consideration to the measures now pending and that you actively support the proposition that the ex-soldier is entitled to assistance. In what form the assistance should be given, whether as a bonus or as a substantial loan, you are in a better position to judge.

Expressing our high regards for you and appreciation for the distinguished service you have rendered the State in the past, we are,

Very sincerely, yours,

J. FRED JOHNSON, Jr.,
GEO. J. BOWEN,
Committee.

[Telegram.]

VALLEJO, CALIF., March 5, 1920.

Chairman FORDNEY,

*Ways and Means Committee.**House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.:*

It is profoundly pathetic, the congressional economy talk, when soldier legislation bobs up. The taking of interest on foreign loans and disallowing many of the alleged but unsustained losses in war contracts would amply supply the necessary funds for adjusted compensation. Adjusted compensation is not a matter of gratitude, but absolute justice. So runs western belief.

NELSON WELBURN,

*State Executive Officer,**California Department, American Legion.*

SAN PEDRO, CALIF., March 11, 1920.

CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR CHAIRMAN: At a meeting of the board of directors held March 14 the secretary was instructed to inform you that a resolution was passed indorsing the request of the American Legion for legislation in their behalf, which is now before Congress.

We are informed by the American Legion that there are several bills under consideration in the House and in the Senate, and that the House bills are before the House Committee on Ways and Means. The American Legion does not ask us to indorse any one bill, but to indorse the following propositions:

The provision for land-settlement projects covering all States:

A provision for financial aid to encourage purchase of rural or city homes.

To provide for vocational education for all officers and men of the late war, whether disabled or not.

We therefore urge your favorable consideration of legislation along these lines, and further urge you, if consistent, to use your best efforts to secure passage of such legislation during the present session.

Yours, etc.,

SAN PEDRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
By I. G. LEWIS, *Secretary.*PRIVATE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' LEGION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Los Angeles, Calif., March 17, 1920.

Hon. C. W. FORDNEY,

*Chairman Ways and Means Committee,**House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: Representing as we do the great body of enlisted veterans of the World War who are now residents of the State of California and believing that we express the universal sentiment of those men when we say that they are heartily in favor of a bonus being paid to them by this Government; and

Believing that the officers of the American Legion do not represent the rank and file of the enlisted men, but their own interests instead; and

Having followed carefully the newspaper reports of the attitude of Congress toward all bonus legislation and especially toward the bonus bills; and

Having found that the great majority of the veterans of the World War in this State and approximately 100 per cent of the members of the Private Soldiers' and Sailors' Legion in this State favor the Sherwood bill, which provides for the payment of \$560 in cash to every man who was in the service regardless of color, rank, or organization; and

Having been informed that this bill, along with all others touching upon soldier legislation, is in the hands of your committee; and

Since it is the universal impression of the ex-service men as well as of the general public that this bonus bill as well as all other bills touching upon soldier legislation, is to be held in committee until after the general election, for reasons best known to the committee; and

Believing that it is of vital importance to the welfare of these soldiers, sailors, and marines that the Sherwood bill be passed,

We beseech and urge you in behalf of the private soldiers, sailors, and marines whom we represent to release this bill to the floor of the House at once that it may be finally acted upon.

Very sincerely,

LOU GOULD SHEDDAN.

AGNES MEMORIAL SANATORIUM,
Denver, Colo., March 2, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY.

*Chairman House Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

HONORABLE SIR: I note from the daily press that the House Ways and Means Committee, of which honorable body you are chairman, is about to hold hearings on the subject of a gratuity or bonus to ex-service men who served in the late war. I observed that you announced that as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee you would support a movement that would provide some form of a gratuity to ex-service men, and that you predicted a speedy recommendation from the honorable body above mentioned. I am an ex-service man who, in common with some other 20 patients in this sanatorium, was discharged from the United States military service, due to tuberculosis contracted in the line of duty, and am classed, as are the other patients referred to, as 100 per cent totally disabled, and am receiving care and treatment under the direction of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance. I would respectfully call your attention and the attention of the members of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives that where a man is discharged from the United States military or naval service, due to a disability incurred in the line of duty, and if such person who was discharged from the United States military service, due to disability incurred in the line of duty, elects to make application to the United States Department of Agriculture for a homestead tract, under the existing law he is given credit for a full enlistment for the duration of the war, dating from time of said enlistment to the termination of the war. Representing the sentiment of the ex-service patients in this sanatorium, we respectfully ask that in the matter of a gratuity or bonus granted to ex-service men the same provision will obtain for men discharged from the service due to tuberculosis incurred in the line of duty. We most respectfully request that you give this subject serious consideration. Many of us are incurable, and have no hope of ever again enjoying good health. We have given to our country the thing that mankind holds most precious, namely, the enjoyment of robust good health. With full confidence that this subject will receive the attention it deserves at your hands,

I am, most respectfully, yours,

GEORGE JOSEPH HANAGAN,
*Ex-private, Company B, One hundred and third Engineers,
Twenty-eighth Division.*

STAMFORD, CONN., March 10, 1920.

CHAIRMAN HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: In reply to some of the opposition to the adjusted compensation plan as urged by the American Legion, I am herewith inclosing a copy of a letter written by the undersigned to Headquarters S. O. S. about two months after the armistice, while I was a Lieutenant of Air Service in France.

The letter indicates that long before the American Legion was a working organization and long before any question of adjusted compensation was discussed, the undersigned recognized that officers and men—and there were thousands of them in this line of work who were not making more money than they ever made in civil life, but, on the contrary, found it difficult to live and do their duty on the salary paid.

I recognized then, as I stated in paragraph 5 of the inclosed letter, that those returning to civil life would be handicapped not only by lack of funds and a position, but by debts. My experience of the past six months, since my discharge, has only strengthened the idea that I then entertained and causes me to

heartily approve of the adjusted compensation plan of the American Legion and to urge its adoption by Congress.

It is not, as these opponents say, bartering our patriotism, because at the time we enlisted in the service no thought of compensation was even dreamed of nor were any demands made on the Government. We were satisfied with anything just for an opportunity to do our duty.

To-day that duty has been performed, at least until such time as our country needs us again—and, believe me, we'll go and with the same thought and spirit as before—but in the meantime we are in civil life, and instead of finding a helping hand from those we did business with before we find a commercialized world with increased resistance from those who benefited by our absence and made money while we were serving our country. It is this unfair advantage that those who stayed behind have over the ex-service man, and until such time as the ex-service man can by his perseverance and energy restore himself the Government should assist in that battle. It is not paying him, nor is he bartering for his service. This idea is resented by the ex-service man, and it is those who stayed behind and thought only of the almighty dollar that have dared to suggest it, or else they have independent means.

To the ex-service man adjusted compensation is the helping hand of the Government extended for the purpose of fighting his way back into the world and among his competitors, and to save him from falling by the wayside as no doubt some would desire.

When it is said that the national debt will be increased, and everything should be done to hold it down, that is true, but when we think of the wild extravagance of the American people and the lavishing of money by the Government on practically all the people of the world we wonder how it is that they make such a holler when asked to help their own. We wonder that such enormous sums for military purposes are even thought of, especially as we are told there will be no more wars but instead a League of Nations to sit and talk it over.

At any rate cut down your enormous military and other appropriations, and benefit millions of men by helping them back to their place in life which will add to the readjustment most vitally necessary in this country.

We are asked to help devastated France and stricken Belgium and every one agrees. Why? Because they lost their homes, property, etc., and for humanity sake we help them to be restored. Yet their suffering was for country.

We are asked to help the ex-service man and no one agrees. Why? Did not most of them give up voluntarily and therefore lose all they had in the world, position, business, etc., just as the French and Belgians lost their homes and property? Is there any difference between the two? Both were for country's sake.

It may be a crime to give up voluntarily, instead of waiting for the enemy to take it from you. It may be a crime to be 100 per cent American instead of a foreigner or a stay-at-home.

If you say helping the ex-service man is putting a price on patriotism what is the price on a bluff at patriotism and staying at home? Ask the war-baby man or the shipyard man and those who worked in factories alongside of the \$30-a-month man in uniform.

Respectfully,

DANIEL F. B. HICKEY,
Formerly Captain, Air Service, A. E. F.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST AIR DEPOT, Z. OF A.
RENTS, REQUISITIONS, AND CLAIMS SERVICE,
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.

January 26, 1919.

From: D. F. B. Hickey, first lieutenant, A. S., U. S. A., R. R. & C. Officer.
A. P. O. 731-A.

To: Headquarters, R. R. & C. Service, S. O. S., A. P. O. 717, attention Lieut. Col. Klein.

Subject: Traveling expenses.

1. I desire to call your attention to a situation that no doubt affects every R. R. & C. officer in the service and with which I have had some experience in the past few months.

2. The situation referred to is the heavy expense under which R. R. & C. officers are burdened in the performance of their duties and the pressing need

of means whereby a fund may be created for the payment of expenses incurred while away from their station.

3. The situation, as I find it, is simply this: Officers are assigned to this department for R. R. & C. duty. They have the expenses of a billet as well as that of a mess which continues to run while they are away on temporary duty. When at other places the additional expense of lodging and food is incurred, and often it becomes necessary to pay the expenses of the chauffeur. My experience has taught me that the salary of a junior officer under these extraordinary conditions is inadequate to keep him sufficiently supplied with funds to live on, and weeks before his salary is due it becomes necessary for him to secure the assistance of friends in order to pay his expenses. I find that it is impractical to send men to other places on temporary duty when they are financially embarrassed, because, as a matter of fact, they can not properly perform the work, and it has its effect on the morale of the officers.

4. If an officer is on temporary duty in a strange place and finds himself without funds he can not borrow nor can he continue with his duties to the best advantage if he knows he can not pay his expenses when called upon to do so. This may even force him to seek assistance from a foreign people, which is, in my opinion, degrading to the self-respect of the officer and leaves a bad impression. It may be said that the officer receives mileage, but in this work the trips are short and by automobile, so that only a few francs are received in comparison with the amount expended. It may also be added that the receipt of pay by an officer on temporary duty is greatly delayed.

5. Most of the officers are young and expect to return to civil life later on and desire not to be thrown upon the world not only without a position and without funds but even in debt.

6. It seems to me that in view of the fact that our Government is so liberal in providing for the needs and wants of the world in general that its attention should be called to the needs of its own officers, and which are essential, not only to perform their duty but to maintain them in the standing and dignity commensurate with the United States Army.

7. I am calling attention to this because of my experience and because I believe if the situation were properly presented some advance step would be taken. The work of the R. R. & C. Service is only in its infancy, and the conditions under which its officers must work are such as could not be foreseen, but now that many of us have had some experience it seems to me no more than just to the service to call attention to this situation, with a suggestion that something be done to reimburse these officers who incur expenses for the good of the service.

D. F. B. HICKEY.

First Lieutenant, Air Service, United States Army.

R. R. & C. Officer.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., March 24, 1920.

HON. JOHN Q. TILSON,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I notice in a local paper to-day that you are credited with having said that so far you have received but one letter on the matter of increased compensation for ex-service men.

At a large meeting of the American Legion Post No. 47, of New Haven, held on March 11, the men went on record almost unanimously as being in favor of increased compensation. This fact was noted in the local press the following day.

It is, therefore, with surprise that I notice that you are unaware of the sentiment of the New Haven ex-service men, and while I realize that you will receive many letters similar to this, I feel it is my duty to notify you that I, for one, am strongly in favor of this compensation.

Will you, therefore, let the Ways and Means Committee, and also any others who may have been misinformed, know that the ex-service men of New Haven, are taking this opportunity of correcting the impression that apparently exists through no fault of our own?

RICHARD A. WILLETT.

Member American Legion Post No. 47.

WAYCROSS, GA., March 15, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Ways and Means Committee,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I am writing to urge that you, as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House, do everything possible to secure the passage of the Mondell bill, now pending before your committee.

It is my understanding that the American Legion favors this legislation for the benefit of those service men who desire to own farms. In view of the present economic situation throughout the country, legislation intended to develop farm homes is primarily important to the whole Nation, and should have precedence among all the worthy relief measures in the interest of the soldiers.

For your information I am inclosing copy of resolution unanimously passed by the House of Representatives of Georgia at the last general assembly. Owing to the adjournment of the general assembly the measure did not reach the Senate.

I am also inclosing copy of a resolution indorsing this bill adopted at the meeting of southern governors at Memphis, Tenn., last August.

The people of Georgia unanimously favor this bill and again I strongly urge you to do everything possible to secure its passage.

Yours, very truly,

ALEX K. SESSIONS,

Chairman Soldier Settlement Committee of Georgia Council of Defense

JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY HON. HARPER HAMILTON, OF FLOYD COUNTY, AND ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AUGUST 6, 1919.

Whereas there is pending in the National Congress, with a strong probability of favorable action, legislation providing for employment and rural homes for those who have served with the military and naval forces in such States as offer suitable opportunity for such employment and settlement, and carrying an appropriation of \$500,000,000 for the purpose; and

Whereas if said proposed national legislation is enacted it is estimated that Georgia's fair allotment of said appropriation will be approximately \$10,000,000, to be available first for the benefit of her own valiant sons who have served their country honorably in the late war and later those from other States who may seek citizenship in this State because of its superior agricultural resources and advantages; and

Whereas his excellency the governor of Georgia, early recognizing the duty of this Commonwealth to its worthy sons, as well as to citizens of other States who might be attracted here by reason of Georgia's superior agricultural potentialities and unequalled opportunities, appointed a subcommittee of the Georgia Council of Defense, designating it the soldier land settlement committee, to investigate the subject and formulate a plan of cooperation with departments of the Federal Government and of action within the State suitable to the great and important end in view; and

Whereas said soldier land settlement committee, after careful thought, has added its indorsement to the pending national legislation on this subject, and has recommended that this legislature authorize the governor to appoint a commission or board of three members, to be known as the Georgia land settlement board, and to delegate to said board all the powers necessary to secure to the State not only such benefits as may be available from national legislation, but also full authority to secure from the State all possible benefits for service men and others seeking participation in Georgia's agriculture: Therefore be it

Resolved by the house of representatives (the senate concurring), That the governor be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint a board of three members, to be known as the Georgia land settlement board, to be composed in whole or in part of private citizens of the State of Georgia or in part of such State officials as the governor, in his discretion, may choose; the board, when appointed, shall apply to some superior court within the State for such authority as may be required to enable it to effectively cooperate with the Federal Government in carrying out the provisions of any land-settlement legislation

which may be enacted by Congress or by the Legislature of Georgia and as may be necessary to promote, under the most favorable conditions, the employment and settlement of service men and others on farms within the State.

Resolved further by the house of representatives (the senate concurring). That the Representatives from Georgia in the National Congress are urgently requested to assist in the passage of H. R. 487, which provides for employment and rural homes for those who have served with the military and naval forces through the reclamation of lands to be known as the national soldier settlement act.

Resolved further. That copies of this resolution be sent to each of the Members of the Georgia delegation in Congress and to each of the Senators from Georgia, the Speaker of the House, the President, and the Secretary of the Interior.

RESOLUTIONS INDORSING THE MONDELL SOLDIER SETTLEMENT BILL ADOPTED AT CONFERENCE CALLED BY GOV. ROBERTS AT MEMPHIS, TENN., AUGUST 25, 1919.

We unreservedly and unqualifiedly indorse and recommend the immediate passage of H. R. 487, known as the Mondell national soldiers' settlement bill, for the following reasons:

The service men of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps as represented in the American Legion have recommended the Mondell bill and requested its passage.

It will provide employment and rural homes for those who have served in the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps of the United States.

The community settlement feature contained in the Mondell bill in States where this plan of settlement is possible would be superior for the following reasons:

The cost of land and improvements would be less and the service men themselves would benefit from the unearned increment resulting from such community development.

This plan would make possible economy and efficiency in purchasing equipment and supplies, in the development of the lands, in the sale of products, and would provide from the beginning the advantages of organized social life.

In view of high wages in industrial centers on the one hand and high prices of lands now prevailing on the other, it is doubtful if any other plan would attract such a large number of service men.

It is not valid argument against this bill to say that it does not provide a definite pension or benefaction for every service man. In offering opportunity for work and homes on the land for the veterans of the late war our Government would be only carrying out its historic policy in dealing with the veterans of previous wars, all of which have been followed by a national back-to-the-land movement as a national economic need. Had the soldier's homestead act following the War between the States awaited legislation that provided urban homes and industrial opportunities for every service man, the settlement of the West would have been retarded. This measure should not wait on other legislation similarly adapted to meet the requirements of service men desiring urban homes or industrial assistance.

The so-called infiltration method embodied in other bills and urged as substitutes for the Mondell bill, would cost much more, acre for acre, would not greatly stimulate and increase farm ownership, and would lead to inflation of land prices and uncontrolled speculation in lands at the expense of the service men and would deprive them of the healthy stimulus that attaches to farm pioneering, which in the past has been the chief factor in the agricultural settlement and development of the United States. Now that the remaining public domain economically available for agricultural development has largely disappeared, why not, as nearly as possible, through public appraisal and sale of cheaper privately owned lands, as provided in the Mondell bill, hold out the same inducement to settlement of lands now in private ownership?

The fear of increasing paternalism or socialism in connection with the provisions of the Mondell bill disappears in the lights of actual conditions found on reclamation projects in the West, where cooperative individualism and independent control of these projects by the water users and settlers have followed immediately after the projects have been successfully organized and launched under Government auspices. Indeed, the strongest argument in favor of this bill is that it provides for enlightened cooperative individualism as an antidote against the danger of bolshevism that is growing in the country under present

conditions of farm tenantry and lack of the kind of chance for successful farm ownership that is provided in this bill.

Further, the land appraisal and development supervision features of the Mondell bill provide adequate safeguards against improper speculation and possibilities of profiteering.

RESOLUTION TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Whereas the financial situation and condition of the United States is such that the purchasing power of its money has been greatly depreciated; and Whereas the assumption or payment of a certain period of a portion of the monthly, quarterly or annual premium on insurance policies of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance now held or to be held by honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, members of the Marine Corps or Army Nurse Corps, by the Government of the United States, would not tend to increase the amount of money in circulation, or take money from the Treasury of the United States: Therefore be it

Resolved, That Taylor County Post No. 23, located at Perry, Fla., said post being a post of the American Legion, put itself upon record as being in favor of the assumption or payment for a certain period by the Government of the United States of a certain portion or percentage of the monthly, quarterly, or annual premium on insurance policies of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, held or to be held during such period of honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, members of the Marine Corps, or Army Nurse Corps, whether said policies be now nonconverted or converted, or to be converted during the period of such assumption or payment by the Government of the United States, the length or duration of such period and the amount, portion or percentage to be paid by the Government of the United States to be fixed in the discretion of Congress.

T. J. SWANSON,
Post Commander, Taylor County Post No. 23.

Attest:

ARTHUR H. CHERRY,
Post Adjutant.

Adopted March 2, 1920.

WALTER S. POAGUE POST, No. 161, AMERICAN LEGION,
Chicago, Ill., March 24, 1920.

Congressman HENRY T. RAINEY,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: This post at a regular meeting unanimously passed a resolution favoring the following legislation for the ex-service persons, viz:

First. Land settlement covering all States.

Second. Home aid to encourage purchase of rural or city homes by ex-service persons.

Third. Vocational education for all ex-service men.

Fourth. Adjustment of compensation based on length of service.

Such legislation to contain the four optional features as above, as liberal for the ex-service persons as is consistent with the welfare of the whole country.

I therefore ask of you to support such legislation and use your influence to bring about the immediate passage of it.

Yours, truly,

JACOB TEINOWITZ, *Adjutant.*

RESOLUTION PASSED BY HICKERSON POST, No. 432, OF THE AMERICAN LEGION,
LOCATED AT BUCKLEY, ILL., ON THE 9TH DAY OF MARCH, A. D. 1920.

Whereas certain legislation is now pending in Congress whereby the personnel that served in the military and naval forces of the United States in the late war with Germany are to receive a just compensation; and

Whereas the personnel that served in the military and naval forces of the United States have sacrificed time, opportunity, and money; and
Whereas the civilian personnel serving and assisting the Government and exempt from military and naval service have received salaries, wages, and bonuses which have handicapped the Army and Navy personnel in reestablishing themselves in their respective vocations; and
Whereas the military and naval personnel are entitled to a fair and just compensation: It is hereby

Resolved, That we recommend to our Senators and Representatives that they support the bonus bill now pending of \$50 a month for each month of service, and all legislation relative to vocational training, homestead acts, and farm and home loan legislation, whereby the Army and Navy personnel may readjust themselves and become better citizens.

G. E. HALE, *Post Commander*.
WM. F. LAMMERS, *Adjutant*.

COOK COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Chicago, Ill., March 15, 1920.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: In regard to these men who speak against the bonus; they speak for their own interest, not the men's; I am married—three kiddies; developed heart disease and acute tuberculosis; been advised to leave this State and must go to a different climate. Now, I have to give up my home, take my family, and we are not getting a square deal from the Bureau of War Risk in compensation. I must have special food, etc., and medicines. How can I do it? I have no money. Just consider my case. What a bonus could do! I don't want charity; all I ask is consideration, and I know Congress means well. These men only represent their personal interest. I served in the Philippines, 1900, Mexico, and France—this war as sergeant. Now, I am only the frame of a man I used to be, and I think you are fair and can give this letter just consideration. I am a Veteran of Foreign Wars and an American Legion, one of the St. Louis originals.

And oblige,

LAWRENCE PACKWOOD,
225 North La Crosse Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

P. S.—These men don't give all the facts that speak against the bonus. I am ready to give facts, the truth if you need them or care to call me.

AMERICAN LEGION, POST NO. 28,
Glasgow, Ky., March 6, 1920.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
United States Senate, Washington.

DEAR SIR: Inclosed find letter from Mr. R. Y. Thomas, jr., Congressman from the third district of Kentucky, in which you will see that he says that it is the Republican Party that is holding up beneficial legislation for ex-soldiers. I am writing this letter for my post, Post No. 28, of the American Legion, Glasgow, Ky.

Thanking you in advance for passing the bill for beneficial legislation which we know that Congress will pass, I beg to remain,

Most respectfully, yours,

JOHN S. YOUNG,
Commander Post No. 28, Glasgow, Ky.

MR. O. F. CURD, JR.,
Glasgow, Ky.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of February 27 has been received. I will state in the beginning that I am for any bill which is intended to benefit the soldiers, but what will be done about this matter I do not know. The whole thing, of course, is in the hands of the Republican Party. No bill can be considered

until it is reported out of the committee favorably and, of course, the majority on all committees are Republicans. The Republican Party has been trying to sidetrack this matter, and has done so all this session of Congress. The Democrats have been continually prodding them and only last week they decided to refer to the Committee on Ways and Means all bills for the benefit of soldiers which have been introduced in Congress. I have no way of knowing what kind of a bill that committee will report to the House or whether it will report any at all. Of course I will do what I can for the soldiers.

Very truly, yours,

R. Y. THOMAS, JR.

[The American Legion, Roosevelt Post, No. 67, Bridgton, Me.]

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY ROOSEVELT POST.

Whereas it has been acknowledged just that all service men and women should receive extra pay comparable with the wages of the civilian population during the war; and

Whereas the question has been pending before Congress since November, 1919; and

Whereas no definite action regarding such compensation has yet been taken by Congress; and

Whereas each post throughout the country has been requested and urged to consider this matter: Therefore be it unanimously

Resolved by Roosevelt Post, No. 67, Maine Department of the American Legion, That all service men and women are entitled to adjusted compensation in the form and amount of a \$50 bond per month of service; and

Be it further resolved, That it is the duty of Congress to make the above provision and Congress is hereby requested and urged to enact a law making such provision, with the least possible delay.

HERBERT L. LOMBARD, *Post Commander.*
MAURICE HEATH, *Post Adjutant.*

PATIENTS' FIFTY-FIFTY LEAGUE,
U. S. ARMY GENERAL HOSPITAL No. 2,
Fort McHenry, Md., March 16, 1920.

EDWARD H. HALE,

*National Legislative Committee, Veterans of Foreign Wars,
3913 Kansas Avenue, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: The Patients' Fifty-Fifty League of United States General Hospital No. 2, Fort McHenry, Baltimore, Md., have directed me to let you know that they are in favor of the following legislation:

1. We favor a generous bonus bill for all soldiers, and we resent the attitude of some people—we contend that the soldiers of the World War are no less patriotic for asking a bonus than are the Civil War veterans who have been securing their pension for these many years. We are in favor of a bonus.

2. We are in favor of the Wason bill, with the proposed amendment, to wit: "Every wounded man be considered totally and temporarily disabled, and he shall receive full insurance for every month spent in hospital or for so long as he is considered so disabled, and then a percentage of his insurance equal to his percentage of disability after discharge, or after having received his partial and permanent rating." Every soldier knows that his insurance was misrepresented, and every soldier paid for insurance with the express understanding that they would benefit under that contract of insurance if wounded. We are in favor of the Wason bill.

3. The wounded men of McHenry wish to express themselves in this manner through their organization, the Fifty-Fifty League, to the veterans in the hope that said expression finds its way into the records of the Ways and Means Committee.

4. For the patients, I want to thank you and assure you that I consider it an honor to address you in their behalf.

Yours, very truly,

JULIUS S. BERG,
President Patients' Fifty-Fifty League.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 6, 1920.

HON. ALLEN T. TREADWAY,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: As a citizen of Pittsfield, Mass., and an ex-service man, I take this opportunity to address you on a subject important to us both, namely, the additional bonus to ex-service men.

Among the various plans submitted, that of the American Legion, featuring the land grants, vocational education and financial aid, seems to be the most beneficial.

This plan would accomplish a twofold purpose, satisfying the ex-service men and making them better and more valuable citizens.

There is not the least doubt but what there are hundreds of thousands of ex-service men who, like myself, were forced to go to work at the age of 14 and who crave an opportunity to obtain a college education.

My ambition is to become a doctor, but four years at day school is impossible for me and fellows in my circumstances.

If a bill is passed giving vocational education to ex-service men, it will mean the realization of dreams for thousands upon thousands of ex-service men who crave a college education, but who never had the means of obtaining one.

I sincerely hope, dear sir, that you will look kindly upon my views in this matter and will do your best to bring about the realization of my hopes.

Respectfully, yours,

JOSEPH M. FUREY,
70 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

CHelsea, MICH., March 27, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH FORDNEY,
House Ways and Means Committee,
Washington, D. C.

Herbert J. McKune Post, American Legion, unanimously favor \$1.50 per day plan. Urge strongly that you spend every effort to get it through.

E. W. PATTERSON,
Post Vice Commander.

THE AMERICAN LEGION OF MICHIGAN,
Detroit, Mich., March 14, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. FORDNEY: The officers and members of the American Legion are delighted with your work for adjusted compensation for our war-service men. You see we do not like the misnomer "bonus" for this thing, which to us is simple justice. Nor do we like the imputation that it is aid our World War veterans desire.

May we make it clear that every soldier, sailor, and marine knew that everybody was getting short hours, increased pay, and spurred on by offer of bonus to help win the war. Farmers got their guarantees. Business men got cost-plus 10 per cent profit, or better.

In fact, we believe everybody got his except he who sacrificed most, risked most, endured most. He had nothing to say about his income. Everybody else had a voice in fixing war work and war-time conditions.

The service man knows that the Government income-tax statements prove that the short war made many rich. That the average savings in such cities like Detroit, Cleveland, Toledo, Flint, etc., was over \$400 per year. Our comrades know that out of their \$30 per month they had to pay \$15 allotments; \$7 to \$9 for war-risk insurance; and the property charges and sundries ordered just about took every penny of his \$30. Thrifty was he if he managed to save the price of a \$50 Liberty bond or two.

Our comrades know that their younger brothers who were too young to serve in the Army or Navy were not too young to get war wages and accumulate good savings' accounts.

Our war veterans came home empty of pocket and out of practice at their trade. Lucky if their health was not impaired by wounds, exposure, hardships, hazards.

Being real men, as the enemy found out, they said nothing, but just buckled in and began life all over again. But they have a keen sense of injustice in their hearts when they look around and see the difference in the "start of life" gained by the bomb-proof-and-feather-bed jobs, as compared to their own lot. Our veteran knows that even the clerks in Washington received bonus of from \$120 to \$240. He got \$60 at the finish, which would not buy him even the poorest civilian clothes.

So what he really expects is justice. He remembers the promises an enthusiastic people made him when he went overseas. He trusts their sense of fair play.

He knows England and her colonies have done more for their war service men than Uncle Sam has done so far. He expects at least the same start in life as the humblest laborer who worked at home got. Therefore: Adjusted compensation, deferred service pay, equalization of net earnings between civilian and combat service, justice, a square deal.

And nothing will do more to settle the unrest and dissatisfaction in America quicker than prompt action by Congress to this end. Dissatisfied soldiers made Russia what she is to-day. Even Canada had her Winnipeg riots—almost a mutiny, you will recall.

We are pleased to note that you stand for this square deal. We know most of the 57 varieties of soldier bills were not benefit legislation at all: At least, they are not fair and just. Mere makeshifts, most of them. Some of them merely muddy the waters. Our doughty doughboy is not easily fooled. Fritz found that out early in the war game.

We favor a \$50 bond per month of actual service, because the average service of our comrades was eight months. Hence the average of \$400 savings by home workers would just exactly be reached.

Unfair is the proposition to give a flat \$500. That would be bonus. The fellow who was drafted in November, 1918, at the very close of hostilities, would receive as much as our 8,000 Michigan volunteers (like Company K, of Saginaw, and Saginaw Naval Reserves), who volunteered April 6, 1917, for instance. Equally unfair are some of the other propositions.

Many of the propositions submitted by those opposing this deferred service adjustment are not just. But if our comrades like some of these options, by all means let them have them.

We try to keep steadfastly in mind the needs of our buddies. If our buddies are satisfied, we surely will be. Therefore let us sum up in favor of these several options:

1. Some legionnaires are asking for nothing; easy to satisfy these. They need not apply for any optional settlement. However, those that feel they earned some service adjustment, give them any one of these options, making them as nearly equitable and just as possible, compared to \$50 per month bond; and throw all the safeguards possible around this bond option. We want our buddies to be really benefited—to have at least "a penny for a rainy day." Keep off the "wolves," the "shylocks," and at the same time avoid injuring our national credits and the value of Liberty and Victory bonds, as possible, trusting your good judgment there.

Summing up the optional adjustments possible:

1. The service men who need nothing and ask for nothing need not apply for any of these optional settlements. That is their privilege and right. But these should not deny others.

2. Loans to secure farms.

3. Loans to secure homes.

4. Land settlement options (homestead laws).

5. Exemption from income tax up to certain ordinary amounts.

6. Vocational education (within necessary limitations).

7. (Perhaps some other options desired and just to all.)

8. And finally, a bond of \$50 per month for every month of service (15 days or more to count a month).

We realize the first four options either cost us nothing or constitute mere loans, well protecting the Government.

We must be careful that No. 5 and No. 6 remain within just limits, otherwise a service man of but a few days might elect to take either of these and actually get more than the long-service man gets.

Beware of the fellows who ask for a flat bonus, like \$500. Theirs is a demand for a gift pure and simple—no justice or equity in it. They probably realize that they never volunteered, and so came in only at the last minute

when there was no loophole left. If so, then their asking a flat \$500 bonus speaks for itself.

Hope to be in Washington at the State commanders' conference Monday, March 22, 1920. But should anything forbid, then please note the above as at least my personal view of the matter. And as my view would exclude officers from the "bond-per-month plan," because they were relatively well paid, and asking nothing for myself or my brother, Capt. Emil B. Gansser, Company M, One hundred and twenty-sixth Infantry, Thirty-second Division. Just want to secure a square deal for "my buddies," who gave most and who now need most, but are too patriotic and too proud to ask for or accept anything except fair pay for service adjustment.

Faithfully,

A. H. GANSSEK.

DETROIT, MICH., March 16, 1920.

Hon. J. W. FORDNEY, Washington, D. C.:

Please fight for the bond a month. In action: Aincz 10 days, Chateau-Thierry 5 days, Soissons 8 days, Meuse-Argonne 42 days, and lived on sugar beets and food taken from the dead. Fourteen days there without a shave, 133-mile march into Germany with 92-pound pack, 5 days without shoes, one meal a day, with army of occupation four months. Came home and found high cost of living, fat slackers in motor cars, and income tax; self-determination started for high wop and low wop, Pole, Jugo-Slav, and Jew with no place for Ireland. Deprived of vote since I went to border in 1916; continuous service, lacking seven months; drilled 22 Monday nights; there seven months and State of Michigan still owes me \$16 for same. Will vote soon for first time three and one-half years. Went through all with Thirty-second Division and gassed October 15, but stuck with company. Uphold the bond a month. First, Second, and Thirty-second Divisions were best soldiers on earth.

JAS. F. SHERRY,

62 High Street, West Detroit, Mich.

DETROIT, MICH., March 10, 1920.

Hon. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Ways and Means Committee,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.:

Relative to adjusted compensation for ex-service men and women, I earnestly advocate that whatever steps are taken by Congress to provide them land grants, home-building loans, etc., that they be directly offered the option of receiving payment in the form of long-time Government bonds, such payment to be based on a bond per month of service. From such information as I have it seems to me fair that these bonds should be of \$50 par value. For instance, on August 31, 1919, a date at which few service men could have accumulated a reserve, 200,800 savings accounts in Detroit averaged \$423.84 apiece on the date of the armistice. The pay roll of one industry here, which by no means paid the highest wages, averaged a rate of about \$130 per month for 13,000 employees. These figures are interesting. They are not, of course, in any way conclusive. I earnestly recommend that data be gathered relative to savings accounts in a number of the large cities in different parts of the country at some given period of last summer, and in the same manner it would be well to ascertain the average rate of monthly pay in all sections of the country covering war industries, shipbuilding, lumbering, transportation, etc. While I fully recognize the gravity of assuming this added financial burden, I personally believe that this compensation is a plain debt of the country and that the cost is secondary to the question of equity. As a matter of common sense, I do not think that the country can make a better investment than one which gives to over 4,000,000 men and women a conviction that they have received not a present but honest recognition and fair treatment by the Government. Such action will go far to clear away doubt and lack of faith.

F. M. ALGER.

KANSAS CITY, MO., March 10, 1920.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.:

James Cummings Post, American Legion, Kansas City, Mo., unanimously indorses action of National Executive Committee regarding additional compensation for ex-service men.

H. H. TALBOT, Adjutant.

A RESOLUTION URGING THE GRANTING OF BONUS TO THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE MILITARY AND NAVAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE WORLD WAR.

[By Mark A. McGruder, Amity Lodge, 69.]

Be it resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Missouri in convention assembled at St. Louis, March 16, 1920, as follows:

That the Nation owes a debt of gratitude to her soldiers and sailors who were in military and naval service of the United States during the World War and that we hereby acknowledge our indebtedness for the vallant service which they rendered in that war.

Realizing the unselfish manner in which they participated in this struggle and appreciating their heroic gallantry, we feel that the Nation should grant each one of them a substantial bonus as a testimonial of appreciation of their service and valor.

That we urge the Congress of the United States at the earliest opportunity to grant to each one of them such bonus as will be a suitable reward for their service and in keeping with the dignity of the Nation: *And be it further resolved*, That the grand recorder be, and such officer is hereby, instructed to transmit at once a copy of these resolutions to Senator James A. Reed, Senator Seldon P. Spencer, and Missouri's Representatives in Congress.

Passed by the grand lodge this 16th day of March, 1920.

E. S. WALSH,
Grand Master Workman.

WILBUR J. HOWELL,
Grand Recorder.

[SEAL.]

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., March 7, 1920.

Committee Chairman FORDNEY.

HONORABLE SIR: Powerful organizations are appealing to your committee in behalf of the proposed soldier bonus. But there are thousands like myself whose boys never came back, and through lack of organized effort can bring nothing before your committee. Those boys came back and their kin are happy. But to those whose boys did not, their sorrow extends to the grave. They are the real sufferers of this war. If it is right, at this time and under present conditions, to grant this bonus to 4,000,000 living soldiers, can it be right to exclude the parents or next of kin of the 118,000 who, if not now, might in time to come, badly need the support and comfort of their dead heros?

Yours, sincerely,

THEO W. MAYERS.

LIBERTY LEGION, No. 1,
Raton, N. Mex., March 11, 1920.

To the Hon. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

SIR: Liberty Legion No. 1, of Raton, N. Mex., the local unit of the Private Soldiers and Sailors Legion of the United States of America, respectfully petitions your most hearty support of the bill now pending before Congress, to wit: The \$500 bonus to ex-service men who were the instruments of the achievement of victory in the World War.

We feel that the passage of this bill is absolutely necessary to transform the soldier to a civilian, to give him the essential equipment to pursue his civil vocation in the manner that is his just right and dues. We therefore ask that you urge the early passage of this bill for we feel that you realize its importance and its justice.

Respectfully submitted.

THEODORE MARCHIONDA,
President.
GEORGE THORPE,
Acting Secretary.

FRATERNITY POST, No. 612,
Brooklyn, N. Y., March 8, 1920.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: As I gather from the public statements of your committee that you welcome expressions from ex-service men on the subject of bonus legislation, I venture to write you certain thoughts which have come to me and which have met the approval of all former service men with whom I have discussed the matter.

My thought is this: The war was won by a combination of two things, men and money. Neither would have produced the result alone. The furnishing of each required or will require sacrifice. The men who were in the service supplied the former. Let those who were not in the service supply the latter by enacting legislation in the form of income and other tax laws which would throw upon the men who did not rally to the colors the burden of paying off the debts arising from the war. Such a procedure would go far toward equalizing the burden and at the same time avoid overinflation by dumping an additional bond issue on an overextended market and putting into the hands of the men a sudden windfall, which a majority would promptly dissipate.

To put the suggestion into concrete form, enact an income-tax law which would exempt ex-service men from any rate of tax higher than that existing for the year 1913, and let those who stayed out of the service make good on their usual boast that they furnished the money to successfully prosecute the war.

Respectfully, yours,

BRADFORD BUTLER,
President Fraternity Post, No. 612.

NEW YORK CITY, March 9, 1920.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: As there seems to be a considerable scarcity of practical suggestions offered for the aid of ex-service men by the Government, the following suggestion of mine was brought to the attention of many former service men, both individually and collectively, in order to obtain their opinions thereon. In every case it met with hearty approval and I am therefore asking you to bring it before those directly concerned with the initiation of proposed legislation on the subject:

The Government should issue a nonnegotiable, nontransferable instrument, payable to the ex-service man, his heirs or estate, and representing the entire allowance due the payee, as computed on the basis of a stipulated amount to be decided upon for each month of service. This instrument would extend over a period of time which, in the opinion of Congress, would be sufficient for the Government to pay off the obligation with least stress on the financial condition of the country, say for two years or, if necessary, five years. If for two years, there would be attached to the instrument four coupons, each representing one-fourth of the face value of the instrument and payable semiannually, without interest, to the ex-service man personally, or to his heirs or estate, and only upon presentation of the entire instrument with coupons attached, and the said instrument would contain all required information to insure complete identity. If for five years, there would be 10 coupons attached, payable in like manner as explained above.

Trusting that those who realize the practicability of the above suggestion will do all in their power to see it perfected and adopted, I am,

Very truly, yours,

DAVID P. KNOB,
Ex-Sergeant, Sixth Marines.

YONKERS, N. Y., March 10, 1920.

CHAIRMAN THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: As a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion I am interested in your straightforward effort to avoid further

delay on the matters pending before Congress relating directly to appreciation of services abroad, in the evening up process, mis-called a bonus. I think you may be interested in the views of one of the older men of junior rank who, in his connection with the intelligence branch of the Army, came in close contact with the men for the purpose of studying their morale and obviating discontent, and what then threatened to engulf us all, the spread of bolshevistic propaganda. The feeling in back of our men was that they were there to serve, not their own interests but their country's, and they were glad when they came back to learn of any bonus, for the \$80 then looked as though it would outfit them at least. But what did they find? Some of us, like the writer, left a wife and family behind. In my case, it consisted of four children. While we were away (and in my specific case this occurred four times) our rents were increased to extortionate proportions. We found instead of being able to procure an outfit of a suit, and overcoat, a pair of shoes, and a hat, we could only select a suit or an overcoat—so most of us had our overcoats dyed and made the best of it.

And, sir, we find in the shadow of the Dome men who have done nothing for their country, young men of draft age, who did not even don the uniform who received bonus and increases advantaging by our absence and the consequent scarcity of labor. Did we go to feed their maws and to let them take advantage of conditions to demand more of the Government? I think not. We find in the cantonments men who could not drive a nail straight were receiving \$50 and \$70 a week—some of these men being of the very tribe we went across to fight.

But, sir, to make it worse, we find places where positions formerly held by men are now entirely taken over by young women—and the soldiers are told that there has been a change of policy. To the change the soldiers do not take exception to so much as to the lack of provision, forethought for them.

Did we ask what we were going to get when we went over? No, sir; we went gladly and would go again, although conscious of the lack of appreciation of an ungrateful country. It was our duty to go, and it may be our duty to go again—whatever Congress may do, the American soldier will not fail in his obligation.

I believe the consensus of opinion is that the men want a nucleus wherewith to fight the conditions which have piled up against them. The married man would appreciate even a loan, and would pay good interest for it. The single man wants a chance to live, and a chance to dress in such a way as not to be shunned as an outcast.

By delays, gentlemen, you are giving the dodgers, the slackers, the weaklings, arguments on which to hand their excuses for not being willing to serve, and serve gladly. They look upon us as fools who have been carried away by an enthusiasm that was laudable but foolhardy.

LAWRENCE FREDERIC DEUTZMAN,

Junior Vice Commander Crusaders Post 353, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

MARCH 10, 1920.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: Here's to a speedy and generous settlement with the boys who wore the uniform.

Past: In the United States Navy for about one year. Served in the North Sea mining squadron five months. By purchasing \$150 in bonds, \$50 in war savings stamps; and supported a wife on seaman's pay.

Present: A 22-acre farm, one-fifteenth paid for; a cow, paying for her by milk; working, and hoping to buy a horse giving note for three-fourths value; under serious financial handicaps.

Future: Myself—I'm working, depends on providence, I'm praying Uncle Sam—I'm hoping. Will Uncle Sam help me to help myself, or will he wait till I'm unable to do so?

Yours, in peace,

SHELDON MONROE BARRUS,

Kenka Park, N. Y.

HORNELL, STEUBEN COUNTY, N. Y.,
March 12, 1920.

Hon. LUTHER W. MOTT,
Member of Congress, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: It has been my privilege to serve in the Army during our last three wars, viz. Spanish-American, Philippine Insurrection, and World War. Note this difference: In the first two the forces were composed of United States Volunteers, men who volunteered to serve; there was nothing compulsory about it; they made what business arrangements were necessary to safeguard their interests prior to entry into service. In the World War service was compulsory. Bearing in mind the different conditions under which service was rendered, I must take the stand that ex-service men are entitled, not to a bonus or gift or hand-out, but to what I shall for lack of a more appropriate term designate as a soldier's adjustment.

During my Federal service I have been intimately associated with five different companies of Infantry and feel such contact places me in a peculiarly favorable position to know the American soldier as he really is at heart, viz. intelligent, alert, eager, obedient, and, above all, modest and retiring in disposition, and for those reasons not qualified to fight his own battles publicly in times of peace. In times of stress his interests are well cared for: he is the country's safeguard, the hero of the hour; when it's all over the average citizen scarcely knows how to spell the word s-o-l-d-i-e-r, and some even have to look in a dictionary to ascertain the meaning of the word.

Now, it is my contention that the ex-service man is entitled to a soldier's adjustment, for the following reasons:

1. To liquidate debts contracted by his dependents during his service.
2. To repay personal loans obtained by himself.
3. To employ counsel to defend him in civil actions accruing subsequent to lapse of protections afforded him during service by the soldiers and sailors relief act.
4. To enable him to proceed to sustain himself and family while entering new employment.
5. To enable him to take a technical training if he so desires.
6. To enable him to start some business for himself.
7. To enable him to start a bank account, in many cases wiped out as a result of his service.
8. To put him upon a more equal footing with the more fortunate and give himself an equal chance in the race for legitimate gains.
9. To enable him to make a first payment on a house, the foundations of our prosperity.

As arguments in favor of this soldiers' adjustment, I submit:

1. This soldiers' adjustment will inure to the benefit of the disabled soldier as well as those competent to perform their daily labor.
2. One hundred per cent of the men of my acquaintance will accept such soldiers' adjustment, including myself. You see, I do not cover myself by camouflage in the matter, as the war directly caused me the loss of a new home I had built.
3. The award of this soldiers' adjustment will be but slight recompense for the disruptions of his business connections and the plans he had made for his future.
4. An award of this soldiers' adjustment will afford an unparalleled opportunity for these unfortunates who, much against their earnest desire, were compelled to remain in civilian occupations and accept the tremendous profits incident to their war contracts, in that it will afford them the personal gratifications of feeling they had some more tangible, concrete part in the defense of their country than lusty street-corner cheering and maudlin, parting handshaking, even though some at this moment are still "handshaking."
5. Further, as a consistent, integral part of this soldiers' adjustment, I would include some provisions to furnish those who so desire a farm, ready for occupancy and work.
6. The ex-service man is entitled to the very best treatment, privilege, emolument, and material, financial award that it is in the power of this Government to render. Now that the war is finished, he should not be "last in the shuffle," and his personality and service blinded in the drab colors of the mass of population to whom the war was a dread fear while it lasted, but who may now throw out their chests with safety and speak patronizingly of our "boys," etc.

7. As to the methods of financing this soldiers' adjustment, let those able-moneyed interests who so patriotically subscribed for various Liberty bonds (bearing a fair rate of interest and of undoubted security), devise the ways and means.

8. If, as has been stated, many would squander their adjustment, let them do so, they have earned this right; but I venture to say we men are too keen, too hard-headed, to waste our hard-earned relief in such fashions.

9. The United States could have carried this war along for many months. To state that this soldiers' adjustment can not now be successfully engineered is to confess the bankruptcy of the greatest Nation of the world.

The rehabilitation, safeguarding, vocational training, and practical material assistance of the ex-service man should now be the matter of prime importance to the people of this country.

Further, those who do not need it and to whom a financial or land adjustment would be superfluous will surely not be compelled to accept such emolument, so they may rest with a clear conscience.

America is so far behind Canada and Australia in the doing of what she should for her men in olive drab, the task to bring her to realizations of this obligation seems hopeless. Therefore let the 105,000,000 show the 5,000,000,000 that their privations, hardships, sufferings were not in vain; let them make the United States service man the ideal American, an ideal to be lived up to and striven for by all true Americans and those whose hope it is to become such.

In closing I would state that, should such an act on my part be of any practical benefit, I would refrain from accepting my soldier adjustment if granted, so long as the United States service man receives his due. Nothing is too good for him, no honor too great, no award too large, no hope for the future beyond his just due. Cut out boards, commissions, bureaus, red tape, and come across to the United States service man, and quick and clean. He needs it.

GEO. L. BAKER.

Late captain Eighth New York Volunteer Infantry, 1898; captain Forty-first Infantry, United States Volunteers, 1899-1900; captain, Infantry, United States Army, 1918-19; member American Legion, Cunningham Post, No. 440; American Society of Civil Engineers.)

ARTHUR VIENS Post, No. 704.

AMERICAN LEGION.

Bronx County, Bronx, N. Y.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,

House of Representatives.

DEAR SIR: At a recent meeting of this post the question of the bonus was brought before the members and the vote was unanimously in favor of a \$50 a month bonus for every month in the service. This is in opposition to several posts in commercial houses in New York County, who opposed the bonus as unpatriotic. This post has more wounded men in its ranks than any other post in New York State, and if stock dividends can be exempted from the income tax and the tax returned, there is no reason why a bonus can not be granted.

Also it is urged that the resolution of the Melrose Post No. 75, of the Bronx, urging an increase in exemption from the income tax for ex-service men and women, be given some consideration.

Very truly, yours,

WILLIAM B. STACOM.
Commander.

NEW YORK, N. Y., March 13, 1920.

Hon. JAMES A. FREAR,

House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: As a former service man, I was interested in an article relating to a hearing on the soldiers' bonus legislation which is printed in to-day's New York Times. I was greatly surprised by the inaccurate statements made by Frank P. Keech and G. M. Rushmore, of New York.

I am a member of the Crotona Club (Inc.), of New York City, an organization of men between the ages of 23 and 30. It has a membership of about 70, of which about 60 were in service. None of these men work in Wall Street,

nor do they live in the so-called "silk-stocking" districts of New York. They all expect and favor some bonus for the former service man. They feel it the duty of the country to give them a fighting chance, at least, with the fellows who stayed at home and made more money during the war than they ever expected. When one witnesses the hundreds of former service men still wearing their Army overcoats on Sundays, and see the slackers wearing silk-lined woolen overcoats, it is enough to convert any red-blooded American to the cause of the former service man.

It is my opinion that Messrs. Keech and Rushmore were actuated in their statements by their Wall Street connections more than a desire to further the welfare of the boys. I feel that you agree with me.

I am particularly surprised to read Mr. Keech's statement that New York City boys do not desire or need a bonus. I have spoken to more than 100 former service men and have yet to meet the man who will say that he does not need or favor a bonus. I believe Mr. Keech should take a trip to any factory in the city and pick out 20 men who were in the service and ask them their opinions on the bonus question. Mr. Keech would change his opinion very quickly. I think Mr. Keech is interested more about the bond market than about a bonus.

In conclusion, may I thank you in the name of these men who need and favor a bonus of some sort so that they will feel the country has not deserted them. Keep up the good fight.

Respectfully, yours.

L. L. ESQUITH.

ARGONNE POST, No. 107,
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS,
Brooklyn, N. Y., February 29, 1920.

TO THE HONORABLE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN: Re so-called bonus legislation.

The daily papers lately have carried much propaganda for and against such legislation, some of it originating from Members of Congress, most of it from individuals of the American Legion, or local posts, purporting to voice the sentiment of the entire body. Various schemes have been proposed, various amounts, and nothing. To-day a post in the West—St. Cloud, Minn.—desires a delay until after election. I think Senator Nelson must have hypnotized them or controls the post. We all know that should the matter be put off until after election no favorable action of any kind will be taken for years. No action to help in any concrete way the boys who gave up everything to obey the call of the Government has been the policy of Congress and the entire Government ever since November 11, 1918, and that is why the Army and Navy are suffering from cold feet, lack of morale, and other ills of un-American tendencies. That is why hundreds of thousands of the boys who gave all with the best of intentions, noblest of motives, complete unselfishness, now hold up their hand and say "Never again."

Just put yourselves in their places for a moment and let's see! You, as a soldier or sailor gave up a good position, your family ties, social connections, comfort, and opportunities to go do a job and do it well, at, say, \$36 per month, a little more or less. Then the Government proceeded to take about half the \$36 from you in the form of allotment—sometimes your loved ones got it, more often they did not.

United States insurance took about half of the remainder; Liberty bonds, etc., got most of the rest. The average soldier or sailor was lucky to pull down \$3 to \$5 per month. You say he didn't need it? Then you never served, especially far away from home and suffered robbery from every quarter for the simplest little things a soldier wants to buy. The "boys" took all this good naturedly, as a matter of course, until they returned home, ill, wounded, or well; all got the same dose—nothing! Ofttimes welcomed from their voyage by notorious traitors, or near-traitors, to their flag and country. No jobs, or of so small a salary that they couldn't live respectably; found the country full of slackers, draft-dodgers, foreigners, and grafters whose war service consisted of profiteering, oftentimes bleeding the loved ones of the absent fighter; rents, food, clothing, every necessity. These same flag-waving, shouting, cheering, profiteering patriots who managed to remain behind to fill the soldiers' jobs

at wages never dreamed of, gave the returning hero a cheer and glad hand, then gave him the cold shoulder—to shift for himself and loved ones as best he could. Most of them never got their old jobs, or one at half the money, because the home hero held that down tight.

A few moments after he was in civilian clothes the rent hero raises and raises until he can't pay; the moving man accommodates him for \$80 to \$150 per van load from one profiteer to another, and it's still going on. His \$60 bonus hardly bought a respectable suit, regardless of the expert from Congress who said \$15 would get one. Eighty cents for butter, 80 cents to \$1 for eggs, 16 cents to 25 cents for sugar of inferior grade, 10 cents to 20 cents car fare where 5 cents used to answer, and so on to the bitter end.

This, my dear Congressman, is the reception and reward the average soldier and sailor is receiving for his once popular patriotism. Do you wonder he says never again? Do you see the answer he has for the public official and the home hero?

Take my own personal experience as one example: Gave up a \$3,500 position to enlist May 1, 1917. Family living in an \$18 floor, from a \$42 apartment in order to make ends meet. In six or seven months promoted to a commission (junior) and had to buy full equipment at high prices. Then family's rent raised to \$23. Conditions became unbearable for them so moved into a place at \$25. (This had been raised from \$18.) Food, clothing, etc., began to soar higher and higher. House sold seven times in a year. Had to subscribe to bond issues to keep your unit quota up. Since had to sell every one before being paid for. Quit the service in September, 1919, over \$600 in debt with nothing to start on, no job to go to. Finally landed one at \$1,800. Rent is now \$35 and going higher next month. No place to move to, except at higher rent. Can't buy anywhere, no cash to put down. No redress in any direction but just suffer in silence and go deeper in debt. Now, I, even have been more fortunate than the average, yet its going to take me years to get square and begin anew—at 40 years of age. My consolation is to watch the slacker, draft dodger, profiteer, and public official who didn't have to go, drive by in their autos, enjoying \$100 suits, steam-heated apartments, theaters, etc., none of which I can aspire to for many moons—because—because I considered my country's call first.

Now, do you see where that \$30 per month, or \$1 per day back pay asked of Congress comes in? We don't want a bonus, we want a little back pay with no strings or frills so that we can get our just dues before we die of disgust.

I belong to the American Legion, a post of 450 members. I meet thousands of veterans every week in the Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars and outside of them, and, truthfully, I have never yet met one who did not think Congress should put this matter through at once as a just and fair treatment of the boys who did all they could when required, and without any politics, quibbling, or unfair demands.

The press reports that the Legion is against it, or demands \$50 per month, or any other unreasonable demands are not the voice of the Legion, but that of a few publicity seekers who are playing up to some legislator to curry favor of a personal and selfish nature. The demand for \$50 is of this nature, and its main object is to kill any chances the boys may have of any consideration. The rank and file of the Legion want action at once and will be exceedingly grateful for \$30 per month, or \$1 per day of service, only they want it now, when it will be of the most help.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars members are equally on record for it, as you well know. This is the older organization, 20 years, and has never asked unreasonable legislation. It has served its members and veterans in general nobly and well, and is now a unit behind this demand. They have centered their efforts on the Royal C. Johnson bill for \$30 per month of service as the most reasonable. Seventy-five per cent of all veterans want it now—so why delays, new bills, new arguments until nothing is the result?

You had faith in the boys when they were fighting at your "call to arms." They have done their job well, and now have faith enough in you, Mr. Congressman, to ask you to now do your bit to help them save their self-respect, the health of their loved ones, and their faith in their Government, before it is entirely shattered. Are you equal to the task? Or must you compel the veterans to lose what confidence they have left and to organize a concerted effort to constitute a new personnel in the Government? Six million men, with their families and friends, would be a formidable political enemy, as well as a friend. Think it over.

Faithfully, yours,

WALTER A. JOHNSON.

SOLDIERS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION.

CITY OF CLEVELAND, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

March 4, 1920.

The WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,

Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: Inclosed herein please find certified copy of a resolution (file No. 51432) adopted by the Council of the City of Cleveland February 24, 1920.

I respectfully call your attention to this, and remain,

Very truly, yours,

C. J. BENKOSKI, Clerk of Council.

[File No. 51432.]

RESOLUTION BY MR. CURRY.

Whereas the men and women who have served in the World War have declared individually and through the organizations serving their interests that they be granted additional compensation for the time they were in the service; and Whereas these people have suffered a great economic loss while serving their country; and

Whereas their pay in the service was insufficient to enable these men and women to save for the future; and

Whereas the cost of living has increased tremendously and the purchasing power of the dollar has declined considerably; and

Whereas the American Legion has submitted a definite plan for this additional compensation by requesting Congress to pass a bill providing a \$50 bond for each month of service during the war; and

Whereas this council of the city of Cleveland, of all suggestions so far offered for a fair and retroactive compensation to the ex-service men and women who so ably represented us during this great emergency, believe this plan is a satisfactory one and should be granted: Be it

Resolved, That this council of the city of Cleveland recommend the passage of the necessary legislation to give all ex-service men and women a \$50 bond for each month of service during the war, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the proper committee of Congress and to Senators Pomerene and Harding, representing the State of Ohio, and to Congressmen Charles A. Mooney, H. I. Emerson, and John J. Babka, representing the districts in Cleveland.

Adopted by the council February 24, 1920.

Approved by the acting mayor March 1, 1920.

I, C. J. Benkoski, clerk of council of the city of Cleveland, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of resolution (file No. 51432) adopted by the council of the city of Cleveland February 24, 1920.

Witness my hand and seal at Cleveland, Ohio, this 4th day of March, A. D. 1920.

[SEAL.]

C. J. BENKOSKI.

Clerk of Council of the City of Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, March 17, 1920.

CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,

Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Inclosed please find copy of resolutions adopted by the War Mothers of America, Cleveland chapter. We would greatly appreciate your active support of the equalization bill approved by the American Legion.

Very respectfully, yours,

SARAH E. HYRE.

Acting President.

RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZED AND APPROVED BY THE SERVICE STAR LEGION WAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, CLEVELAND CHAPTER.

Whereas the Service Star Legion War Mothers of America, Cleveland chapter, comprising in its membership more than 2,000 mothers whose sons were in the armed service of their country during the great World War, are vitally interested and deeply concerned in the welfare not only of their own particular sons but in the entire body of ex-service men; and

Whereas the Cleveland War Mothers believe that justice and fair dealing require that these men be in some measure compensated by grateful people for the financial loss which they as individuals incurred during their months of service for the cause of liberty and democracy; and

Whereas there are now pending in the Congress of the United States a number of bills looking to the equalization of compensation of ex-service men, among which is a bill which has the indorsement of the American Legion: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the War Mothers of Cleveland, convened in regular session, do hereby indorse the bill of the American Legion and urge its adoption by the United States Congress.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the chairman of Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives at Washington, and that copies be forwarded to the congressional representatives from Cleveland and Cuyahoga County and to Senators Warren G. Harding and Atlee Pomerene; and be it further

Resolved, That we, as an organization and as individuals, lend our every effort to securing the passage of the legislation hereinbefore referred to at this session of Congress, so that the minds of the men as well as the public may be at rest upon this subject.

SARAH E. HYRE,
Acting President.
Mrs. P. C. O'BRIEN,
Vice President.
Mrs. W. B. WRIGHT,
Vice President.
Mrs. HOWARD M. WHITE,
Secretary.

MERRITT POST No. 142,
THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF OHIO,
Waverly, Ohio, March 18, 1920.

Hon. J. B. FORDNEY,
Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

HONORABLE SIR: We, the undersigned, have been appointed a committee to write you regarding House bill 12906, introduced by Mr. Thompson, fifth district of Ohio, providing additional compensation for all who served in the World War.

Merritt Post No. 142, the American Legion, Waverly, Ohio, heartily indorses Mr. Thompson's views in this matter and asks you, through this committee, to support this bill to the utmost.

We were both loyal and patriotic when the call to arms came and sacrificed both happiness and commercial interests to go to the aid of our country, and now if that country sees fit through your honorable committee to reimburse us, as that is what we feel this additional compensation means, without too heavy a burden on the American people, we trust you will consider this bill, H. R. 12906, favorably.

This additional compensation means to the boys in this community the first payment on a farm of their own, the equipping of themselves to properly till the farm of another, the start in business; in fact, a real start to make America for Americans. Tanking you for your favorable consideration of this matter, we are,

Respectfully, yours,

R. M. ANDRE,
WILMER GEHRES,
D. A. BREIMIG,
Committee.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, March 15, 1920.

Hon. Mr. FORDNEY,
Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
Washington, D. C.

HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: A vote taken from the lists of the disabled men in the seventh district of the Federal Board for Vocational Train-

ing resulted as follows: For adjusted compensation in the form of bonds at the rate of \$50 for each month of service, 1,212; for a flat rate of \$1 per day of service, with an additional \$100 for overseas service, 16; for no compensation whatever, 3; total votes, 1,231.

This communication from those for whom the war will never end may interest you. We demand nothing; we merely ask justice.

Of our total membership just under 96 per cent are volunteers. We did not go to the front for money, but for love of the Old Flag and what it stands for.

It seems to use very small to ask for money. I quote: "A grateful country will see that our heroes receive justice." Thanks, oh grateful country, as represented by a grateful Congress.

It must be hard to live on \$7,000 per year. We manage on \$80 per month. We would ask no more than that those Members who oppose adjusted compensation could have spent one night on the front with us; gone over the top one time.

Forgive if this may seem like a whine to you. We appreciate the efforts of the Hon. Mr. Fordney. With deepest respect for those who follow that which seems to them to be the best for our country, for we doubt not their sincerity, we beg to remain,

Very sincerely,

THE AS-YOU-WERE CLUB.
W. B. HORTON, *President*.

P. S.—We are trying to get back "as we were."

NEW BREMEN POST, No. 241,
THE AMERICAN LEGION OF OHIO,
New Bremen, Ohio, March 6, 1920.

Chairman FORDNEY,
House Ways and Means Committee, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: The discussion before your committee on soldier relief measures is stirring up much discussion in our community and I presume in all communities. I'll venture to say that this is the paramount topic of political discussion before the country to-day, as it is generally assumed that both political parties are guessing at the expediency of the various proposals.

But nobody is saying that ex-service men and women do not deserve the adjusted compensation in the form and amount of a \$50 bond per month of service. The general opinion is it would be best to give it.

The general point of objection is that if the bonds are easily transferred many veterans will sell theirs overnight for luxuries and will actually be harmed by this measure, and that such an occurrence will seriously harm the financial situation and will bring about a general slump of Government bonds.

But there is a good way to remedy this feature. When our post indorsed the action of our national executive committee, we included in our resolution a clause providing that these bonds be so registered that it will be reasonably difficult for veterans to dispose of them before maturity. This will prevent any veteran from disposing of his unless he is very much "up against it"; this will give each veteran an assured savings item; this will prevent a slump of Government bonds; and this will be satisfactory to both the service men and women and to the general public.

We believe that the best kind of military preparedness is to make military service popular. We believe that if the veterans of the World War are given an "even break" it will be relatively easy to raise another Army if ever the country again needs a large Army. Trusting that you will give this letter consideration, I am,

Yours, very truly,

W. H. RABE,
Post Commander.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, March 3, 1920.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
Washington, D. C.

GENTLEMEN: We have noted in the newspapers your consistent policy in behalf of soldiers, sailors, and marines along the paths as recommended by this

society in October, 1919, and although another veteran body appears now on the job, we are satisfied if results are obtained, even though due credit may not be extended to our champions.

Our sincere regret is that we are not able to have a committee in Washington, as we note your committee took up the question of a bonus Tuesday of this week. However, since we read accounts of the proceedings and discussions as to where the two billion was to come from if the \$50 per month is authorized, we have the courage to suggest again, Why not finance the bonus from proceeds of the sale of excess war materials, prize ships seized, and excess shipping?

These suggestions are submitted in an earnest spirit, and, we hope, so received, trusting in your committee to weigh same. Thanking you for your consideration, we have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

SOCIETY OF ENLISTED WORLD WAR VETERANS,
M. E. DE GROFF, *Commander*.

PORTLAND, OREG., March 2, 1920.

HON. W. C. HAWLEY,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: The American Legion, Portland Post, No. 1, at its regular meeting held March 1, 1920, invited all ex-service men and ex-service women, regardless of whether or not they were affiliated with the American Legion, in order to obtain their view on the matter of fair compensation while in their country's service.

With but 3 negative votes out of a possible 3,000 men and women assembled shows most vividly that they are for an adjustment of some form or other.

The "home-aid" bill is the one in which I am most interested, and I take this opportunity to urge you, as our Representative from Oregon, to give resolution as adopted by Portland Post, No. 1, on the evening of March 1, 1920, your loyal and sincere support. Trusting that you will not disappoint me in so worthy a cause, I am,

Very respectfully,

A. P. RUFNER,
Private, Company A, Thirty-first Railway Engineers.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., March 12, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH M. FORDNEY,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Having read the many remarks accredited to those called upon to testify before the Ways and Means Committee on beneficial legislation for former service men, may we be permitted, from the humble position of disabled soldiers, to suggest that some of the remarks be censored by your committee before going to press? We make this suggestion, believing that some of the remarks emanating from those testifying will undermine and destroy the morale of our discharged service men, and also because it serves as excellent propaganda for anti-American element within our borders to interpret for our benefit what "a grateful and appreciative people" meant when they said "Nothing will be too good for the boys when they come back home."

The only argument against the proposed financial relief enters in the name of economy, which has no place whatever in the hearings. Justice alone should decide the question. If Congress believes that the men have made a financial sacrifice incidental to their military service it should be a pleasure for that body to enact legislation reimbursing the former service men as Congress deems just.

If Congress believes that these men have made no financial sacrifice it should be so determined and let the question drop forever. If the financial-relief plan is defeated because of the economy plan it shall rise again at a later date and serve as a platform pledge for politicians seeking the soldier vote. In view of the fact that 99 per cent of the former service men desire financial assistance, it is evident that such a pledge would be worth quite a few votes.

If Congress decided that these men have made a financial sacrifice, but, due to the so-called economy plan they can not be reimbursed, in this instance we might enter economy as an antonym of justice.

The only people opposed to such legislation are the few service men who are worrying about their family income tax and those who didn't have even a relative in the rank and file of their country.

The war worker, while working a short distance from home, was given a bonus of \$20 per month, or \$240 per year. The war fighter, some of whom served over two years, was given a bonus of \$60, in many cases not quite sufficient with which to purchase a civilian outfit as he went forth to seek a position that some of the boys who stayed at home had no desire for.

Let justice be the deciding factor and Congress won't have much difficulty in deciding the issue.

If economy in our country is to be had at the expense of the men to whom the Nation owes not only its wealth but also its place in the sun among honorable nations, rather than at the expense of those who got it while the getting was good, it might result in a disastrous system of economy.

Very respectfully,

A GROUP OF DISABLED SOLDIERS,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Mailed by Raymond L. Cunneff, Banks Business College, Philadelphia, Pa.
RAYMOND L. CUNNEFF.

CORPORAL JOHN H. CASTOR POST, No. 204.
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Philadelphia, March 12, 1920.

Chairman FORDNEY,
Ways and Means Committee, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Having been asked to express the views of some 300 members of our post, who have a very important grievance on the subject of soldiers' relief, we wish to express our cooperation with you as to officers making statements that the ex-soldier does not want some relief to their present situation. The average ex-soldier does want and needs some consideration.

The Government saw their way to grant a bonus to the employees in the arsenals to the extent of \$360, and now they can not see a way to grant a bonus to the men who were in the military services of this Government, who certainly deserve some financial compensation for the hardships they endured, while these people who made \$50 to \$100 a week stayed at home and enjoyed themselves, and in many cases laughed at the ones who went to fight for them.

Why is the slogan amongst the service men, "They will have to drag us into the service the next time"? Simply because they were not appreciated for what they did; they came back and had dress parades, and the people fell all over them; but when they went to take their jobs back, in most cases there was no job for them. The Government had to give medals to employers for to get them to take some of them back. Is that fair? If it is, then it is a very poor set of people to go and fight for.

I certainly hope that the Representatives of our people will not be influenced by the statements of these selfish men who have been in Washington with propaganda to down the ex-soldiers' bonus. I speak as one of the representatives of this all-American soldier organization, and I hope this letter will be given every consideration and made public. Waiting and hoping for some good results,

Yours, very truly,

EDWARD A. LEVINS, Adjutant.

PHILADELPHIA, March 13, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: In view of the fact that you are considering many plans of recognizing the men who served in the World War, I beg to submit a plan for your consideration.

I think it is a well-known fact that the majority of the men who were in the military service feel their services should be recognized in some substantial way, especially in view of the fact that practically all other countries associated with us in the war have recognized the services of their soldiers by the payment of a liberal bonus or some other means.

The vast majority of men in the service were men of small or medium means, who gave their services gladly and without stint. While they were away the men who remained home were enabled to secure the highest wages ever paid in the history of the country. Therefore, the men who served in the Army or Navy were at a distinct disadvantage upon their return home, for the reason that their friends and neighbors who had remained at home were so much better off financially that it has been difficult for the average man who was in the military service to get a sound footing in civil life.

It is perfectly true that any cash bonus would be spent very soon after receiving it by most men, therefore I would suggest that every man who served in the military service, either the Army, the Navy, or the Marines, and who was honorably discharged therefrom, be given a deferred-payment bond equal to \$50 for every month of service. These bonds to be registered and nonnegotiable or transferable, but payment thereon to be made directly to the person to whom it was issued after a period of years. In the meantime, the man to receive whatever interest the bonds bear.

My thought is that a man who has served more than 24 months should receive the full amount of his bond at the end of 10 years, with the option of taking a new bond for 10 years at the same rate of interest if he so desires.

The man who served more than 18 months, but not more than 24 months, to receive the full value of his bond at the end of 11 years, with the same privilege of securing a new bond for 10 years more at the same rate of interest if he so desires.

The man who served more than 12 months or not over 18 months, should receive full payment at the end of 12 years, with the privilege of renewal. The man who served more than 6 months or not over 12 months, to receive full payment at the end of 13 years, with the privilege of renewal, and the man who served less than six months to receive full payment at the end of 14 years, with the privilege of renewal.

The only exception in making these bonds payable 10 years or more after date would be to the individual to whom they are given who has been injured while in the service to such an extent that he is unable to make a livelihood for himself. They should be given bonds that are negotiable immediately, if they desire; and any man who died prior to the full payment of his bond becoming due, the amount should immediately be paid to his family if they so desire. Negotiable bonds should be given the next of kin of all persons who died while in the service for the months served.

A plan such as this will give every man a substantial bonus in recognition of his services, and it would be in such shape that he could not squander it or lose it foolishly at this time. It would rather be a very substantial investment, upon which he would receive a fair rate of interest semiannually.

Most of the men who were in the military service were young men, and when they are 10 to 14 years older they will be in much better position to use this money; and, I venture to say, in most cases they will, perhaps, have much better use for it at that time than now. Those that do not need the principal will have the privilege of taking a new bond at the end of their period and in this way continue a good investment.

This plan would have very little or no effect on Government bonds and the only immediate money necessary would be the interest charges for the first year. A sinking fund, of course, would have to be provided to take care of the redemption of the bonds when they come due 10 years from date.

I am submitting this for what it may be worth, feeling that perhaps something definite might be worked out of this suggestion.

Very truly, yours,

SAMUEL O. WYNNE.

NEWPORT, R. I., March 13, 1920.

CHAIRMAN HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE:

I have been greatly interested in the discussion taking place in the daily papers with regard to the soldiers' bonus. I have watched the testimony given and the opinions offered by both former enlisted men and officers. I notice

the same old fight come up as came up when the \$60 bonus was up for passage. Articles are written by enlisted men who show a jealous disposition by endeavoring to produce arguments as to why officers should not be included in the bonus. Occasionally, too, you will find an officer writing who desires to pose as a "good fellow" in the eye of the public and who says he does not need nor does he expect to receive a bonus. He may possibly not need it and hence can easily appear in the rôle of "good fellow" in the eye of the public. Personally I am acquainted with a number of officers (and, by the way, also enlisted men) who do not need this financial aid in the form of a bonus, but nevertheless they are as much entitled to it as anyone, whether enlisted man or officer.

I am very much opposed to any class distinction. I do not believe a jealous breach should be allowed to creep into our ranks. I believe we should accept as brothers in the service, as soldiers, sailors, and marines of these United States, whatever bonus is agreed upon by Congress. We should be "all for one, and one for all." If the bonus is a good thing we should stand "united" for it, as we stood united in Flanders field, Chateau-Thierry, the Argonne, or the Meuse, etc., and not permit the serpent of jealousy to creep in and destroy this friendly feeling nor jeopardize a just recompense.

When the average man, whether enlisted man or officer, entered the service at the time of the great emergency, he did not stop to consider whether or not he would receive a pension, bonus, nor whether their lives would be insured. They entered the service for no other than patriotic reasons. These same men do not now consider that the contemplated bonus when paid to them will be a recompense for their patriotism, for it is not. Nothing could be further from it. American patriotism can not be purchased by dollars and cents. It could not be bought at the time of the American Revolution, and none the less can a money value be placed upon service rendered (patriotism) during the World War.

The bonus is merely accepted as a partial refund for the great financial loss (not counting danger to life) sustained by all men and officers for time served in the Army during their absence from their civil occupations and professions, while those who remained at home, from whatever cause, were earning three and four times as much in the same occupations and professions just vacated by these men and officers.

There are thousands of enlisted men and an equal percentage of officers who actually do not require any financial aid in the form of a bonus, but exceptions can not and should not be made. There are ten times as many men and officers, too, who do need financial help and need it badly, and who should receive it.

Officers, in comparison to the enlisted men, have made greater financial sacrifices. Most of them are older, were beyond the draft age (consequently volunteered), and had been well established in their business or professions, and when they were ready to sell or otherwise close their business or profession it meant a great sacrifice, indeed, while the enlisted men—probably 90 per cent of them were young men—working at a fixed salary, a small percentage of whom received their salary regularly for the entire duration of their service. This, however, was the exception. Other young men who had started a business or profession had not yet become firmly established, and hence had not so much to lose. However, I say treat all men in the service, officers and men, as one class. Give them all the same bonus.

The millions of dollars raised by the different war activities were used for the comfort and pleasure of the enlisted men; wearing apparel made by the various chapters of the American Red Cross, confections, smokes, etc., were always showered upon the enlisted men—never to the officers. Officers were often even solicited to make contributions to the different war service organizations. Officers were always compelled to pay excessive prices for all their wearing apparel, had to pay for their own rations, and to purchase expensive overseas outfits, while all these were furnished to the enlisted men gratis, or free.

The enlisted men were granted allotments ranging from \$15 up to \$50 per month, depending on the size of the family; the officer received no allotment. Officers were denied that privilege; their families received nothing. I am trying to impress upon this committee the great necessity for including the officers in the distribution of the contemplated bonus, for many are in dire need of it. If the United States Government can pay a bonus to nearly 4,500,000 enlisted men, it would never miss the small amount it would have to pay 192,000 officers.

Now, as to the plan of payment. Many men were only in the service a very short time; some as short a time as five weeks up to three months. I do not

believe a man who was in the service only a month should receive the same amount of bonus as the man who was in the service 15 months. So, if a bonus is being given, I think the only just way would be to have a fixed amount per month for each month's service rendered, with full pay for a fractional month, with a minimum of three months. I am sure the man who served only six weeks or three months did not make the same financial sacrifice as the man who served 18 months or more, and hence should share only a proportionate amount of the bonus.

Now to summarize:

1. There should be no class legislation. Bonus should be paid to all—enlisted men as well as officers.
2. A money value can not be placed upon American patriotism, and bonus should not be considered as paying the men for service rendered.
3. Bonus to take the place of a partial refund for financial loss occasioned by absence from business or profession in civil life.
4. The greater per cent (90 per cent) of enlisted men and officers need financial aid badly, while only a very small per cent (10 per cent) do not.
5. Officers, in comparison with enlisted men, have made greater financial sacrifices, but do not register any objection to having all receive the bonus and under the same conditions.
6. Bonus to be figured on the monthly service plan, with a minimum pay for three months' service.

A. A. ANKENBRANDT.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., March 16, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH WARREN FORDNEY,
Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. FORDNEY: As a former service man, who was disabled in the service during the late war, I take this opportunity of congratulating you on your stand in favor of granting a bonus in some form to the hordes who offered their services and risked their lives to defeat Prussianism. Dispatches that I handled to-day from Washington show that your heart is right, and as one of the millions who served the colors I thank you.

I know that you are getting millions of suggestions as to ways of giving the men a bonus. I beg to submit the following plan for your consideration.

There are probably 100,000,000 inhabitants in the United States. I believe it is safe to say that of this number 10,000,000 are men above the age of 21 years, who are unmarried, divorced, or widowers.

My plan is: Effect legislation putting a tariff on all unmarried men above the age of 23 years of 50 cents a month. This would bring an annual income to the Government of approximately \$60,000,000 a year.

I am going on 26 years of age and remain in class that would be affected by law, placing a tariff on bachelors. The small amount of 50 cents a month would not be missed by the millions who paid the tariff and would make up the great deficit to the Treasury that the various bills that Congress have been thoughtful enough to pass to aid our boys. In a few years' time this tariff would eliminate all deficits caused by the Sweet law and a bonus to service men, if passed. I am,

Truly, yours,

P. M. Ross,
Night Editor, News, San Antonio, Tex.

ROANOKE POST, THE AMERICAN LEGION,
No. 3, DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA.
Roanoke, Va., March 5, 1920.

CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: I am inclosing copy of resolutions in regard to proposed legislation for the relief of ex-service men, which were adopted by the Roanoke Post of the American Legion at its regular meeting held March 1, 1920.

Yours, very truly,

R. B. ADAMS, Adjutant.

RESOLUTIONS IN REGARD TO NATIONAL LEGISLATION FOR THE RELIEF OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

Whereas there are pending before the Congress of the United States numerous bills designed and proposed for the relief of the ex-service men who fought in the World War; and

Whereas the national executive committee of the American Legion has appeared before the Congress and indorsed the bill which provides for land grants or farm loans, or in lieu thereof a cash bonus to the ex-service men; and Whereas the Roanoke Post of the American Legion believes that the said bill would be the most beneficial one for the ex-service men: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Roanoke Post of the American Legion indorses and approves the action of their national executive committee in appearing before a committee of Congress and supporting the said bill;

That this post approves and favors the passage of the said bill for the relief of the ex-service men; that our Representatives in Congress be requested to support the said legislation indorsed by our national executive committee; and

That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to Senator Carter Glass, Senator Claude A. Swanson, Representative James P. Woods, the chairman of the national executive committee, and to the Virginia department of the American Legion.

RICHMOND, VA., March 10, 1920.

Hon. FORDNEY.

Chairman Soldier Relief Legislation, Washington.

SIR: I have been keenly interested in this subject. I have just read the Associated Press dispatch in reference to the remark that "Every officer who had good pay doesn't want a bonus." This may be true of those who had good pay, but this could not possibly include but a very small percentage of those who served as officers in the late war.

I was on active duty 11 months on the salary of a first lieutenant with a wife and five children to support. If that can be considered a "good salary," then I am not entitled to a bonus. I was ordered to active duty May 25, 1917, and stayed in the service until forced to resign on account of financial distress.

All service men to whom I have talked believe as I do, that this country owes something to thousands of others, who, like myself, made these sacrifices trying to serve our country in time of need.

I appreciate the efforts your are making in our behalf.

Yours, very sincerely,

T. B. HENDERSON.

SMITH-REYNOLDS POST, AMERICAN LEGION,
Vancouver, Wash., March 3, 1920.

Hon. LINDLEY H. HADLEY,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Attached you will find a copy of the resolution unanimously passed at the meeting of the Smith-Reynolds Post of the American Legion at our meeting on Monday, March 1.

While these resolutions are to a large extent self-explanatory, yet perhaps it would be in order to say that the sentiment seems to be universal for some form of adjusted compensation bill, and I trust you will be able to support such legislation. If legislation can be passed which will give a service man a choice of either the adjusted compensation bill, a land settlement bill, or a vocational training bill, I think it will fully meet the needs of the situation. The main objection, as I understand, to the passage of any adjusted compensation bill is on account of the great need for economy at this time in our Government expenditures. However, it seems to be a pertinent fact that this economy should not be secured at the expense of the service men who have made such sacrifices from a financial standpoint, in order that they might serve their country. If such legislation is not passed it would result in a discrimination against these men, in view of the fact that Government employees and other citizens of the country were given an increase in pay in order to meet the increased costs of living, and yet who were able to remain at home in safety.

May we not hear from you in regards to your views on this needed legislation? I am,

Yours, very truly,

RICHARD R. YEATMAN, *Adjutant.*

RESOLUTION.

Whereas now pending before Congress four bills of vital interest to all service men and women, namely: The Morgan Home Founding bill, the Mondell bill, the Vocational Training bill, and the bill for adjusted compensation, and Whereas these four bills were recommended to be passed by Congress at the national convention of the American Legion at Minneapolis in November, 1919, and Congress advised to that effect, and

Whereas resolutions were passed by the national executive committee at their meeting held at Indianapolis on February 10, 1920, instructing the American Legion committee on beneficial legislation again urging Congress to take action on these bills, and

Whereas similar action has been taken by our own State executive committee, and

Whereas no definite action has as yet been taken by Congress; therefore be it

Resolved by the Smith-Reynolds Post of the American Legion, That Congress be respectfully requested to take immediate action on these four bills, as may best serve the interest of this country and to the men and women who have been in its military and naval service during the late war.

Passed March 1, 1920.

RICHARD R. YEATMAN.

WALTER C. LEE POST, No. 32,
THE AMERICAN LEGION,
Walla Walla, Wash., March 6, 1920.

Representative LINDLEY H. HADLEY,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. HADLEY: Inclosed please find a resolution recently passed by the Walter C. Lee Post, No. 32, indorsing the resolution by the national executive committee pertaining to "adjusted compensation."

We trust that you will consider this matter carefully and that you may feel ready to support the resolution.

Very truly, yours,

PAUL H. WEYRAUCH,
Chairman Executive Committee, Walter C. Lee Post, No. 32,
Department of Washington.

RESOLUTION.

Whereas at a meeting of the national executive committee of the American Legion, held at Indianapolis, on February 10, 1920, special consideration was given to the question of adjusted compensation; and

Whereas a resolution was passed at this meeting bearing on this subject: Be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of Walter C. Lee Post, No. 32, the American Legion, Department of Washington, that the resolution referred to be approved; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of both this resolution and the resolution of the national committee be sent to every one of the Congressmen and Senators of the State of Washington.

PAUL H. WEYRAUCH,
Chairman Executive Committee, Walter C. Lee Post, No. 32,
Department of Washington.

THE ABERDEEN DAILY WORLD,
Aberdeen, Wash., March 9, 1920.

Representative FORDNEY,
Chairman House Ways and Means Committee,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: If, after nine months, during which time he has made two affidavits and several requests for action, an ex-soldier is unable to get a reply

from Washington regarding a \$50 second Liberty loan bond that he paid for out of his meager salary, as an aid to his country in addition to a year's service in this country and 16 months in France, how long will it take him to secure any benefits from the measure your committee is discussing for the relief of ex-soldiers, should it become a law?

Their records certainly show that I paid for the bond, which was to be left with the War Department until called for. All was turmoil in our outfit in France when the bond was paid for and I received no receipt. I have not received the bond and apparently can't get it. If I can't get it, who does?

If you and your committee honestly want to help a soldier, a little aid in getting what is justly due him will be greatly appreciated. Let the rest be charged to experience.

Very respectfully, yours,

P. D. MORGAN.

WHEELING W. VA., March 13, 1920.

Hon. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY, M. C.,
Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Bully for you! The writer surely appreciates and commends your stand on the matter of soldier relief.

The writer was one of the few thousand in the Air Service as a flying cadet. All through ground school and flying school, it was recommended that we buy this thing or that thing "because some day you fellows are going to be officers."

Those of us who were not blessed with an oversupply of worldly goods, of course, had to go in debt for these things, and I know several, myself included, who borrowed amounts ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 before the long-looked-for commission was forthcoming.

Understand, please, that there was no graft, only an overzealousness on the part of our superiors.

I, for one, need the money, and I know a dozen others who will not "squander" any bonus that is forthcoming, but who will apply it to debts and obligations incurred while in the service of Uncle Sam.

If there is anything more than you have done, that you can do to have this matter favorably reported, I am sure that you will receive the earnest commendations of the millions who served and the especial thanks of thousands who were proud to call themselves flying cadets and flying officers of the Army Air Service.

Very truly, yours,

HOWARD HOLLOBAUGH.

CHEYENNE, WYO., March 1, 1920.

STARS AND STRIPES,
701-8 Munsey Building,
Washington, D. C.

Transmit the following to Wyoming Congressmen, Senators Francis E. Warren, John B. Kendrick, Representative Frank W. Mondell: We, the following ex-service men, request your support in the bill providing for a \$50 bonus per month for discharged soldiers for the period of time they were in service.

Albert Cornell, H. Brannon, L. Morris, William Petrey, R. Woolston, William Keating, Fred Grant, Gus Sohrens, Kenneth Bell, B. McCloud, Clyde Peterson, Harry Doyle, Milton Dorough, M. Jones Dwyer, Smith L. Evenrude, F. Ballinger, Ward Hudson, Victor Harr, John McHugh, William Vavra, Charles Woods, N. McDonald, Frank Stabler, F. Wilson, E. Peters, Eli Jacobs, James Vavra, Willis Rees, J. Dougherty, H. Mitchell, Jess Husey, Walter Davis, William McGinley, Orin Kerrigan, T. Arcice, Frank Sinclair, W. Junk, Frank Bell, Craig Lewis, Edward Justice, Leonard Lowry, M. Von Kenel, George Schoel, Harry Linn, Frank Vavra, Albert Leslie, Clyde Avery, Lorns Faller, John Walker, Guy Hanna, Fred Robinson, Edward Leff, Luther Mills, Roy Hansen, William Challice, Thomas Meyers Daugherty, Erwin Ryan, Carl Eck, William Linn, B. Schoel.

Edwin Cyer, Charles Munson, Fred Blake, A. Ludington, Leslie Keller, Fred Gage, Charles Gazarek, George Kinsolving, Pete Manewal, Edward Adolphson, Robert Alexandor, Guy Barlow, John Marks, Charles Kilty, Edgar Caton, Albert Melquist, William Kalder, Edward Moore, J. Wilson, W. Hoffman, Eugene Swinson, Harry Loberty, John Carter, J. Harper, Ford Weson, William Doody, John Riner, Ernest Johns.

COMMUNICATIONS OPPOSING ADJUSTED COMPENSATION ON CERTAIN FEATURES THEREOF.

STATE OF ARKANSAS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
March 15, 1920.

Hon. H. M. JACOWAY,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I am inclosing you a clipping from one of our county papers, which if made a law would be very unpopular among the masses of people in this country.

I feel that the ex-service men should be well taken care of, but they have done no more than men of past generations—only performed a patriotic duty which every American citizen owes to his country. They received more pay than any other army that has ever been called out by this Government.

The old folks at home should receive some consideration, as they observed the meatless and wheatless days and sugarless weeks, and numbers of them borrowed money to purchase Liberty bonds, and doubled their efforts for greater production of everything for the soldiers.

Another bond issue or credit would depreciate the value of the bonds already sold. I feel that every loyal American should long to see this great war debt reduced as rapidly as possible. This great burden would virtually fall upon the old folks at home, as the ex-service men have refused to return to the farm. I know of very few in my county who have returned to the farm. I am a farmer, and I know that we can't employ labor enough to till the land in this country. It seems that our ex-service men as a rule do not work at anything as long as they have any funds. If we can't secure more help, I fear a great shortage in foodstuffs.

I was a volunteer soldier in the Spanish-American War in company with the Dardanelle boys. We served for half the amount that our late soldiers received and returned home feeling that we had only performed our duty, and asked for nothing but a fair chance to make our way in the world.

I write this only to give you an idea of how the folks at home are thinking. Thanking you for past favors, I remain,

Yours, very truly,

R. S. WILLIAMS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 12, 1920.

Hon. JOS. W. FORDNEY,
Chairman of House Committee on Ways and Means.

DEAR SIR: I have listened with interest to the hearings before your committee on the various bills for additional compensation for ex-service men. I trust you will not consider it presumptuous for me to offer these suggestions.

It is needless to urge the necessity and justice of providing for the dependents of those who died or for those who were disabled. Every American concedes that to be a just and righteous duty.

It is those ex-soldiers who have returned uninjured from the war, the young men in the strength and glory of their manhood that seem to be unmindful of the obligations, blessing, and proud privilege of living under a flag that flies over the greatest and most progressive Government on earth and has never yielded to a foreign foe—that flag that has carried the message of freedom and democracy to the uttermost parts of the earth. It is to be regretted that men should seek to commercialize their patriotism by an attempt to force additional compensation at this time of general world unrest when it would be dangerous and unwise to further weaken our ability to develop and protect the country we love.

No one knows better than your committee the sacrifices our people and Government would have to make if we should be required to finance a national defense under present conditions. Why maintain an Army and Navy if we can not sustain them in active service?

I can not believe that this hullabaloo about additional compensation comes from our representative young men of American birth and training. From my observations I am satisfied that it has not come from the ex-soldiers who are working, but from those who are working the soldiers. Often the clamor is made by persons holding positions with various organizations of ex-service men, and it is more of an object to them than to the other members of the orders.

Since the war I have traveled from coast to coast and am sure this election-time effort to get at the public funds is not general or serious.

There is no distress among the people of our country. Wages were never better, and prospects for employment are good. The railroads have been returned to their owners with great shortage of rolling stock and the tracks in bad order. To prepare the lines for competition will require men for the steel mills, factories, and track work. If this and other enterprises do not furnish employment for all, then the Government should start constructive projects that will keep everyone employed who is seeking work. From my experience during the war, when I aided the Government in investigating fraudulent exemptions and other charges of disloyalty, I was astonished at the extent that I. W. W. and Bolsheviki theories had spread throughout our land. Some of the advocates of these dangerous doctrines were forced into the service. Our mutual friend, ex-Gov. Spry, of Utah, while chief executive of that State refused to pardon an I. W. W. convicted of double murder. Before the day of execution he received upward of 27,000 letters threatening his life if the pardon was not granted. These death messages came from all over the world, but largely from this country. The essence of the treasonous propaganda of these organizations is that "those who have accumulated property should be compelled to divide." "That one class has the right to take the property of another." If the income tax is not sufficient, it should be increased for the benefit of the country and not for a certain class.

A law of this kind would be a step toward the danger line. I know your committee, composed as it is of some of the most experienced and conservative Members of Congress, will not encourage any movement no matter how well it is camouflaged with patriotism and indorsed by our most deserving citizens who may not realize its most dangerous features. I trust that no such scheme will rise its slimy head in your committee or strike its forked tongue of sedition into the very laws of our land. One result of giving \$500 to some of the most radical proponents of the bill is that they would be apt to consider at this time that bonus time and election time are about the same time.

I am not offering any criticism of those soldiers who are loyal to our system of government, and they include almost all the ex-service men. Our boy, though not yet reached his majority, left our hearthstone on the 6th of April, 1917, the morning war was declared, and enlisted in the Navy as a coal passer. He went to his station in the bunkers of the ship with as much pride and determination as the officer who walked the bridge. When the war was over he was discharged as a machinist, first class, and came home to us a man among men, perfect of form, sound of limb, and clean of mind. His ambition as an armed defender of the greatest country on earth was satisfied. His mother's prayers were answered and my cup of joy was as full as the day God sent him to gladden the hearts of his mother and me. He joined the American Legion, but did not become a chronic beseecher. As dearly as I love him, I would rather see him hobbling on crutches than to know he was putting in his time haunting the corridors and committee rooms of Congress begging for a hand-out. The Hessians fought for money and they were the most despised creatures among men. Our boy, Bill, has no mark of a Hessian on him. Our boy's safe return, his worn uniform, his honorable discharge, and a flag that is still the flag of the free is not only glory enough for us but for millions of other families scattered all over this land of ours.

With my best wishes for the honorable and manly solution of the important problem, I am,

Cordially,

JAMES H. LEVERING.
867 Carillo Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

MARCH 11, 1920.

HON. J. W. FORDNEY,
*Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. FORDNEY: I am inclosing herewith copy of resolutions adopted by the Colorado Springs post of the American Legion relative to the proposed agitation for the bonus for ex-service men.

I have noted from recent reports that your committee is having these matters under consideration, particularly the plan for a \$50 bond for each month of service and the so-called Morgan bill; am therefore sending these resolutions to you at this time.

I would also call attention to the resolutions which were presented in the Senate yesterday expressing opposition to the proposed bonus plan.

With kinds regards,
Sincerely, yours,

LAWRENCE C. PHIPPS.

MARCH 4, 1920.

MR. FRANKLIN D'OLIER,
*National Commander American Legion,
Meridian Life Building, Indianapolis, Ind.*

DEAR SIR: This post of the American Legion has received a copy of your special bulletin No. 13 on the matter of extra pay for service men. We have also read the newspaper reports of the action being taken by the national executive committee and the Legion's legislative committee, in an effort to force an adjusted compensation or bonus bill through Congress.

On September 12, 1919, our post in regular meeting assembled, passed a resolution indorsing the Dick T. Morgan bill and opposing anything in the way of bonus legislation for ex-service men and women. The national headquarters of the American Legion and our Senators and Congressmen were advised of this action at that time, and because the sentiment of the post was and is so strong against bonus legislation, the executive committee feels it is its duty again to let you know the sentiment of the post.

No one recognizes better than we the debt owed to ex-service men and women by the Government. We feel that no matter how large a bonus was presented to the ex-soldier, sailor, and marine, it would reduce by very little the debt of the Nation to those men and women who served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps. Furthermore, there is something unsavory about any demand for cash or bonds, if the idea is one of compensation for services. The services rendered by the military forces during the war were rendered not for the financial benefit that might be derived by the members thereof, but because of a patriotic appreciation of duty to our country. We object to any endeavor to place a money value on our patriotism. We were glad to have the privilege of rendering what service we were able to give and we do not approve of the spirit which induces our organization to go to Congress and endeavor to force from the Government a gift of \$1,900,000,000, or whatever the cost of your proposed bonus bill will amount to.

Everyone agrees that the Nation can not afford any such extravagant undertaking as this \$50 per month-of-service bill would amount to. It is agreed that we can not have industrial peace in this country so long as the tremendous war expenditures of the Government continue, and for an organization, which is organized "to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, State, and Nation; to promote peace and good will on earth" (to mention only two of the avowed purposes of the American Legion), to add an additional burden of a billion or two billions of dollars, seems to us to be inexcusable. But aside from the prohibitive expense of such legislation, this post objects on the ground of the principle, as stated above, that patriotism can not be purchased.

However, because we believe that the Nation is obligated to assist its ex-service men and women in every reasonable manner, we believe that the Dick T. Morgan bill, or a bill providing for Government loans for the purchase of homes in cities or the purchase of farms, whichever the individual preferred, should be enacted. Our information is that such a law could be administered with an initial expenditure of \$100,000,000 and that thereafter the administration of the law would be comparatively inexpensive, and the original loan of \$100,000,000 would eventually be returned with interest.

Another factor in favor of such legislation is that it would make home-owners of the ex-service men and women, and would to that extent tend to stabilize industrial unrest. It would be of infinitely more value to the individuals concerned because, instead of making a present of a few hundred dollars which would soon be dissipated, it would give the opportunity of acquiring property that would have a permanent value.

We realize that a great many ex-service men desire bonus legislation, but we feel that this is largely due to the fact that it is natural for a man who has not considered the matter very deeply to think that he had better take a few hundred dollars now, while the taking is good. At any rate, Colorado Springs Post No. 5, after careful investigation of various bills presented in Congress for the benefit of ex-soldiers, was and is of the opinion that the Morgan bill would be of greater benefit to the individual and to the Nation at large than any possible type of adjusted compensation or bonus legislation.

Therefore, because we object to having a price placed upon our patriotism, because we object to saddling another enormous debt upon the Nation, and because we believe that the ex-service man himself would be very much more benefited by legislation of the character of the Morgan bill than by the suggested adjusted compensation legislation, we desire to express our disapproval of the action of the national executive committee of the American Legion in adopting its resolution of February 10, 1920, and in endeavoring to obtain from Congress any adjusted compensation or bonus legislation.

Yours, very sincerely,

EARL E. EWING,
WILSON ALLEN,
JOHN L. McCAFFERY,
THERON JACK TAYLOR,
JOHN A. CARRUTHERS,
P. E. BOSSART,
STEPHEN R. CURTIS,
Executive Committee.

THE PLUME & ATWOOD MFG. CO.,
Waterbury, Conn., April 3, 1920.

Congressman JOHN Q. TILSON,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR COLONEL: I expect to be in Washington next week, arriving Monday, and I should like to see you. Would you advise me at the Hotel Lafayette, when it would be convenient for you?

I suppose this morning you are in receipt of a telegram from the local post of the American Legion indorsing the present "fourfold" bill. There were less than 100 present at this meeting out of over 1,800 members and 5,000 men in Waterbury. Nor was this vote unanimous. I, for one, am against this paying out of money to men as physically fit, or more so now than they were before the war.

This small representation has spoken for the entire body at Waterbury, and I should like to submit to you my personal opinion, and the opinions of those to whom I have talked regarding this bill, in order that you will understand the sentiment both for and against it.

I look forward to seeing you again. I remain,
Sincerely yours,

S. KELLOGG PLUME.

CULLEN SINGLETARY POST, AMERICAN LEGION,
Fort Meade, Fla., March 5, 1920.

The following resolutions were passed by the Cullen Singletary Post, of the American Legion, located at Fort Meade, Fla., at a meeting held Thursday evening, March 4, 1920:

Whereas the American Government is now burdened to the limit of economic endurance by indebtedness contracted during the World War; and
Whereas the increasing of this burden by the payment of additional bonus to members of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps who served during the war does not seem to us to be sound national policy; and

Whereas those who offered themselves in defense of their country did so from purely patriotic motives, and with no thought of material gain; and
Whereas we believe the present agitation for additional cash bonus to be inspired by political ambition on the part of those who seek to gain the soldier vote: Therefore be it

Resolved by the Cullen Singletary Post, No. 51, of the American Legion,
That we are opposed to the payment of any further cash bonus.

Be it further resolved, That we believe, should there be further compensation for services rendered during the war, it should be in the form of legislation permitting former service men to homestead public lands, thus establishing homes and tending to relieve the economic crisis caused by the underproduction of foodstuffs.

Be it further resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Tampa daily papers, the Jacksonville daily papers, the Fort Meade Leader, our Representatives in Congress, and a copy be spread on the minutes of this organization.

GRAY SINGLETON,
ALLEN B. MEEK,
HARRY W. ZANDER,
Committee.

ATHENS, GA., March 9, 1920.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: As a former service man, whose term of service lasted about 20 months, and who would therefore profit greatly by any scheme of bonuses for soldiers, I would like to protest against the voting of any such compensation. That nothing should be left undone to alleviate the lot of the man who was wounded or suffered in health as a result of the war goes without saying.

However, the idea of voting a few billion dollars of the peoples money to a lot of able bodied men who are amply able to provide for themselves, and whose service to the country was only a duty which every able man owes, seems to me indefensible. I see no difference between this scheme and that of the honorable Mr. Plum to fasten the support of the railroad men on the rest of the country—pure class legislation in either case. Congress has so far proved itself most adept in wasting public money, but I hope it will not go to either of the extremes above mentioned.

I am speaking not with the voice of a capitalist. My profit from the bonus legislation would be decidedly greater than my loss, as I am not yet among those who are called upon annually to kick in with income tax.

Yours, truly,

ALBERT A. RAYLE.

CHAMPAIGN, ILL., March 7, 1920.

HON. HENRY T. RAINEY,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: Since my permanent address is still in your district, I take the liberty of sending you this communication.

The American Legion is responsible for the agitation in Congress to float a \$2,000,000,000 loan, the purpose of which is to give ex-soldiers another bonus. Upon the face of things, it looks as if such a bill, if introduced, will undoubtedly become a law, because the Nation's legislators, valuing their political futures, will hardly dare to vote "no."

Such an act at the present time presupposes a dreary list of possibilities for America, which has always proved conspicuously generous to her ex-soldiers. It will increase an already irksome national debt. It most certainly will deprecate Liberty bonds and even national credit. Already there have been liberal bonuses and comparatively liberal pay and allowances. Most fearful of all consequences is that this probably is only the first demand of a discharged army clamoring for bread and circuses. Civil War pensions lists and the accompanying scandals should still be fresh in the memory of everybody.

At the present time nearly all discharged soldiers seem to have work. There seems to be in history no parallel for the rapid absorption of an army such as the one we had in the United States. A small bonus was paid each soldier at demobilization camps. Perhaps even the enormous bonus contemplated might

have been a help at the time of reentering civilian life; but now it isn't particularly needed. I know that soldiers in my command, with whom I have kept in touch, are, many of them, making more with their hands than my head will bring me, though that is hardly a matter to cavil at.

I spent 25 months in the Army, both as an officer and as an enlisted man. Most of us felt, I think, that we were not lending to the United States at that time; rather we were paying back an indebtedness which every citizen owes and which he must pay in his own way. True, we lost two of our best years. Sometimes it is heartbreaking to think of them. Speaking for myself, however, \$1,250 will never repay me for those lost years, nor do I want to be paid for them.

Some of us came out of the Army completely upset in our life's program. Our ideas were changed, our pet ambitions thwarted. We saw a few stay-at-homes who, during our absence, were far along the paths toward goals we longed to reach.

I believe that what every ex-soldier needs more than anything else is a chance to come back. Many of us are discontented, many of us will continue to be so for a long time. Largess never did any permanent good yet. If this cry for baksheesh isn't stopped now, we shall never hear the last of it.

Very truly, yours,

S. DIX HARWOOD.

EVANSTON POST NO. 42, AMERICAN LEGION.

Evanston, Ill., March 13, 1920.

HON. J. W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Ways and Means Committee.

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. FORDNEY: I heartily indorse the views of the Secretary of the Treasury and the governor of the Federal Reserve Board, as stated in the press dispatches, regarding issuance of bonds to pay a bonus to ex-soldiers. I think it would be a national calamity at this time.

The Evanston post of the American Legion, of which I happen to be commander, has unanimously adopted a resolution against bonuses. Instead, it wants you to spend the money for universal compulsory military training for our young men. I inclose you a copy of a resolution which was unanimously adopted on that subject.

Personally, I believe that the granting of a cash or bond bonus to ex-soldiers would do more harm than good; most of them would spend it foolishly and thus increase the high cost of living. Then, too, this will get the ex-service men in a frame of mind where they will be continually expecting something from the Government.

I am sorry to say that there is a feeling among a great many of the improvident and unthinking ones that the Government now owes them a living. Of course, there is justice in their bitterness against the slacker, profiteer, and other hogs who made money out of the war, and they feel some adjustment should be made to put them on a par with the "stay-at-homes."

I think that such legislation should be of the character to help the ex-soldiers to help themselves—to assist them in buying farms or homes or getting good jobs. Preference in governmental positions should be given them.

The suggestion that all ex-service men and women be exempt from paying an income tax has some merit and is worth consideration; however, this exemption should be limited. It would not do for all of us who went into the service to be totally exempt. It is true that most soldiers are not much interested in this proposition because they do not pay any income tax, but as they grow older the time will come when they will pay it.

Pardon me for this long letter.

Yours, very truly,

EDWARD CLIFFORD.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED MARCH 1, 1920.

Whereas we, the members of the Evanston post of the American Legion (Evanston, Ill.), who by experience know the lack of training of the American Army in the recent war and who realize the dire consequences liable to happen to our country in case it is not prepared to defend itself, are unanimously in

favor of universal compulsory military training for the young men of America: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we urge the Congress of the United States to expedite the passage of Senate bill No. 3792, known as the Wadsworth bill.

EDWARD CLIFFORD, *Commander*.

Attest:

C. L. WARD, *Adjutant*.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
Anderson, Ind., March 6, 1920.

Hon. ALBERT H. VESTAL,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. VESTAL: If you can see your way clear so to do will you please hand this letter to the Member of Congress who is chairman of the committee who is hearing these representatives of soldier organizations who are asking Congress to do something for the discharged soldiers? You know me personally and can say so to that Congressman.

As a discharged soldier of the World War—a volunteer—I am deeply chagrined to know that representatives of soldier organizations are before Congress with the open hand of the mendicant and with the voice of importunity.

This condition clearly shows that what we fought for has been quickly forgotten: Soldiers asking for benefits! In God's name for what did we go out to fight?

I volunteered to fight for my country, for my liberty, for the liberty of my child, for the honor and safety of my family, that neither I nor my descendants should go into slavery to the Prussian Empire!

I beg to suggest a consideration for one moment of the difference in condition of these soldiers, discharged in better physical and mental condition than they ever were in all their lives, and their condition under the sway of a German victory—bondmen to their victors!

Every ideal and institution of American liberty were endangered. And every man who went out, went out, first of all, for his own liberty and freedom.

Every able-bodied man who returned sound in body should return thanks for benefits possessed and buckle down to healthy, hard work—in the words of Lincoln: "It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work," and "that from the honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion."

I am proud to have given my country 17½ months of my life in the days of my country's peril. I am financially poorer than before I enlisted, but I had rather lie with the honored dead in Flanders than to live a slave to the German Empire!

For the dependents of our dead heroes and for the wounded and sick too much can not be done, but for the rest of us red-blooded, able-bodied men it is absurd to ask Congress to vote any sum at all. Benefits—We are still free American citizens.

You may say that you know that I volunteered and that I was the first to volunteer when we were organizing Company M and that the governor gave me a commission. I hope you can say also that you believe I was a real soldier. I regret very much that a certain type of mind seems for the present to be in the ascendent in soldier circles.

I have your letter in regard to the boy of whom I wrote to you.

With very kindest regards to all the Vestals,

B. F. BRUNDAGE,
Chaplain One hundred thirty-ninth F. A. (discharged).

THE WILLIAM NOBLE WALLACE POST, No. 198,
AMERICAN LEGION,
Indianapolis, Ind., March 19, 1920.

The Hon. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

SIR: By direction of the commander on behalf of this post I am venturing to inclose herewith copies of letters which this post has sent to all the departments of the legion and to the posts of this State.

I beg to call your attention as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, before which this question is being agitated, to the injustice which a general bonus or compensation would work on the taxpayers. The only way I believe in which those men who require financial assistance should be separated from those who do not is by granting long-time loans at easy rates of interest to ex-service men who apply for the same.

By this method only those who need assistance will apply. There are many, a very great many, ex-service men who do not need any financial assistance whatsoever and would use any bonus given them under a general distribution to squander upon things which they do not need and which would simply assist in keeping up the present ruinous prices.

Hoping that the honorable Ways and Means Committee will find it possible to assist those needing assistance and to effectually prevent any further descent on the pockets of the taxpayers, I am,

Yours, very respectfully,

BLAIR TAYLOR, *Adjutant.*

COPY OF LETTER TO NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., *February 18, 1920.*

LEMUEL BOLLES,

*Adjutant, National Executive Committee, The American Legion,
Meridian Life Building, Indianapolis.*

SIR: The executive committee of the William Noble Wallace Post No. 198, Department of Indiana, acting for and on behalf of, the entire post, desires to record its protest against the \$50 bonus per month of service recently recommended to Congress by the National Council of the American Legion.

This protest is based on the following grounds:

1. The payment of such a bonus, either in the form of cash or bonds, will add such an amount to the present enormous debt of the country as to increase the already heavy burden of taxation, depress the value of the present Government bonds, and further impair the credit of the Nation.

2. Payment of this bonus will put services in the World War on a purely monetary basis, and cancel the obligations of a Nation. The 4,000,000 American soldiers should resent the idea that they are to be classed as mercenaries, whose experiences and sacrifices can be compensated in full by money payment. Nor should the fact that clerical employees of the Government received higher pay be used as a basis for this demand. Two wrongs do not make one right.

3. In any event, the American Legion, as an organization, should not ask for this bonus. Only in proportion as its motives are unselfish will the American Legion serve as the greatest single influence in American social and political life, now and in the future. From the instant the American Legion falls from its high and patriotic plane, its influence will wane, and we shall see the beginning of the end of the cleanest and soundest single influence in America.

By direction of the executive committee.

BLAIR TAYLOR, *Adjutant.*

COPY OF LETTER TO OTHER POSTS.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., *March 6, 1920.*

SIR: Inclosed is copy of letter sent to the national executive committee of the legion by this post. It is self-explanatory.

We feel that it is a great mistake to favor any bonus plan; but we approve the plan adopted by the Minneapolis convention which, in effect, advocated loans to ex-service men, enabling them to purchase homes, farms, and otherwise to establish themselves in life.

Any money payment other than on a loan basis is fundamentally nothing more or less than charity, and tends to pauperize our membership. It is, therefore, clearly objectionable for this reason alone.

Will you give us your own views and candid opinion on this subject, which is of the greatest importance to the legion and its future standing in the country?

By direction of the executive committee.

SMILEY N. CHAMBERS, *Commander.*
BLAIR TAYLOR, *Adjutant.*

LEESVILLE, LA., March 26, 1920.

HON. JAMES B. ASWELL,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. ASWELL: Ever since the issue has arisen over the question of an additional bonus to ex-service men I have been thinking of writing to you, but I did not believe that so strenuous a fight would be made for it, and had high hopes that a decisive majority of both ex-service men and Congressmen would hold to such an exalted conception of what the service meant, and what service to our country still means—civilian service—as not to be swayed by the rustle of money and the howls of those who seem determined to commercialize that which above all things should be kept sacred.

I am unqualifiedly opposed to any additional bonus of any kind, and I am doing all that I can locally to increase the spirit of opposition to it. To-morrow night we shall organize the local post of the American Legion, and I intend to do all that I can to secure from it a resolution of disapproval, and if successful I shall forward it to you. I am identifying myself with the Legion because I believe that it is the best of the organizations of ex-service men, but I am strictly opposed to this part of its policy, and I believe that one of the most effective ways to combat it is to engender within the organization a spirit of opposition to the bonus.

Notwithstanding what appears to be regarded as the damning fact that I was an officer in the service, I feel that I have a right to express myself vigorously on this subject. As you know, I enlisted at the outbreak of the war and served as a private until I was commissioned in June, and was discharged as a captain on January 20 of this year. I have noted that most of the bonus propositions seek to pay off according to the length of service, so on that basis I have about as deep a financial interest as anyone. We are frequently met with the remark that if we do not approve of the bonus we need not accept it, and should leave those who want it alone. But those who clamor loudest are always shouting that it is not the money that they are after so much as it is the principle of the thing; the fact that the service man should be "properly treated," and "amply compensated," or "suitably rewarded" for his service. We also consider that a principle is involved, higher than the mere matter of sensible economy in Government finances even, and that is that the greatest single event in our national existence—the service of American soldiers in this war—shall not be smirched, commercialized, prostituted, and peddled for votes, to become an object of national contempt. We did nothing but our plain duty, and our Nation owes us nothing in dollars and cents. It owes nothing that can be measured in money, nor paid thereby. Duty is nothing to be trafficked in; the performance of it is its own reward.

Those of us who came out uninjured lost nothing to be compensated for. I am strongly in favor of ample compensation and protection for injured and disabled men, and from my practical and almost daily experience with the workings of our insurance and compensation law, in assisting ex-service men with their claims, I am convinced that the Sweet amendment gives such protection and compensation.

We enthusiastically welcomed the insurance and compensation law, and were assured and believed that it meant the end of the pension scandals, that from service in this war at least no source of political patronage would spring, and here we are met, right at the outset, with the greatest single attempt to grab from the Public Treasury that has ever been dreamed of.

That the scheme is purely a political holdup game and not born of any reason or necessity is shown by the fact that it has arisen at so late a date, after the problems and difficulties of demobilization have practically all adjusted themselves, and only after good organization to support the propaganda and vigorous and prolonged lobbying to put it over. A bonus granted will tend only to revive the unrest that immediately followed demobilization, for thousands who are now settled will, under the short-lived stimulation of a few hundred dollars, quit the places they have settled in and start new ventures and wanderings. It is certain that those most capable of using the money to best advantage are the ones who want it less, for they have already taken hold and are getting ahead. For the others it would be simply a further cause of demoralization. It is another pension system in disguise, with all of the pernicious elements of such a system and none of its merits or justifications.

I do not think that I glorify the service unduly, nor do I consider that I wear a halo because it was my privilege to do what I ought to have done, but

I do not care to stand idly by and watch a bunch of beggars "cash in" their discharge certificates like script. Of course, it is a temptation to a great many to favor a bonus, but it is purely a temptation of money, and nothing higher. It makes no appeal whatever, except to the pocketbook. A great many who are really indifferent will remain silent, when if they gave it much thought they would condemn it. It is for these reasons that I feel that those who are strongly opposed to it should express our opinions, for certainly those who want their pork will certainly express theirs. I certainly trust that you will do all that you can to defeat the bonus.

I inclose a copy of this letter for you to file with the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, as I understand they are receiving expressions of opinion on the subject.

With kind personal regards, I am,
Very sincerely,

J. FAIR HARDIN,
Formerly Captain One hundred and fifty-third Infantry.

Hon. W. P. MARTIN, M. C.,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR JUDGE: As an ex-service man and member of the American Legion permit me to express my personal views relative to this agitation for an additional bonus of \$50 per month, during actual service, for all veterans of the late war.

The question, undoubtedly, has merit on both sides, but I think the proposition as now framed will not redound to the interest of the Nation. I am heartily in favor of a measure that will render aid to those who need assistance, however, I am equally as sincere in my opposition to a flat bonus to all ex-service men irrespective to their condition of need.

My opposition to the bill, as it now stands, is based on two grounds, namely: Destruction of the American conception of patriotism and economic disturbances. I will discuss these oppositions in the order named.

This Nation owes its meteoric development, the winning of its independence and the maintenance of its high ideals to the unselfish and patriotic service of our forefathers. Their devotion and patriotic sacrifices for the infant Republic laid the substantial foundation of our present day greatness. They received meager compensation for these sacrifices, and in a majority of instances compensation was so trivial as to amount to naught. These patriots dedicated their services, and thousands their very lives, for love of country and devotion to the cause of right and freedom.

It is very true that the Nation was then in its infancy and, financially, bankrupt. Remuneration for its defenders was impossible, but this fact, known beforehand to all who rallied to the flag, proves, beyond a doubt, that the foundation of service in times of national peril is predicated upon the theory of unselfish patriotism and this conception has been handed down to me and to you as one of our proudest heritages.

The history of our wars show that in each succeeding conflict our Government was stronger and better able to provide substantial means to care for its defenders. This policy of remuneration commensurate with the sacrifice involved and judged upon the basis of duty in times of national peril, reached its apex in the World War.

The entrance of the United States into this war for world freedom was at a time that this Nation was the wealthiest on earth. Although realizing the inherent and sacred duty imposed on every citizen of military age to shoulder his musket in defense of his flag without thought of sacrifice, our Government formulated a system of remuneration to the service man and his dependents that was short of marvelous. Our soldiers and sailors were the best fed, clothed, cared for, and paid fighting men of the world. Ample means were provided to take care of those at home who needed assistance, and the insurance system made it possible for our men to fight with a free heart knowing that, come what may, their dependents would be protected. The universal service act was drafted in such a manner as to exempt those whose families were in such a state of dependence that necessitated the breadwinner staying at home. No one questions the fairness of this act.

Before the Army was demobilized the Government took another step to help the soldiers, and gave each man a bonus of \$60. This was small, if you please, but more than anyone expected.

Long after the Army has been demobilized and months after most service men had again found their places in civil life comes the agitation for Congress to enact a law that will give each service man \$50 for every month he was in the service. No discrimination is made. Every man, rich or poor, is included and at a cost of probably \$2,000,000,000 to the people of this country who are already groaning under the weight of the high cost of living and excessive taxation.

The proponents of this bill urge as a reason for its adoption that there were hundreds of thousands who did not await the passage of the universal service act, but, without hesitation volunteered and by so doing, in many cases, made large sacrifices. It is maintained that these, and the drafted men, too, should be given a large bonus.

My answer to this argument, in so far as it pertains to volunteers, is, for those of them who do not need help from the Government, and who heard their country's call, and who nobly, through the sole reason of patriotism and devotion to liberty, offered their all as a sacrifice for humanity, to now ask more of this Government, is but a refutation of their motives of patriotism and an open acknowledgment that their services were not freely given, but were offered with a mental reservation of a condition subsequent, which condition in their minds has now ripened and entitles them to a reward at the expense of that spirit of unselfishness that everyone praised when they put on the khaki. To ask more than our country has done and is still doing is capitalizing patriotism in terms of pecuniary reward and is a base prostitution of the ideals of our dead patriots.

In so far as the men are concerned who came under the universal service act, the remuneration, insurance, and other protective measures offered by the Government afforded ample compensation. In the first place, this act provided for exemptions to those whose dependents could not spare them, and the war did not last long enough to call for those thousands who really were supports to their families and who were put in deferred classes. Those who were called out under this act either waived exemption or had no grounds for claiming same; therefore those who waived exemption can be classed as volunteers, and their case comes under my treatment of the question from the standpoint of a volunteer, and those who could not claim exemption really had no dependents, or if they had, they were provided for by the Government.

Another argument, without merit, is that many men were taken from good positions and since their return their positions were filled and they were forced to do something else, and in some cases at a sacrifice. In these days of enormous prosperity, high wages, and plentiful work it is a sad commentary on a man's worth if he can not quickly secure a position that pays him better than his prewar job.

I admit that there are numerous instances and individual cases which need and deserve help, and I favor certain means of rendering additional compensation, which I will touch on later.

Viewing the subject from an economic standpoint it strikes me that during these trying times of afterwar reconstruction when this nation, in its prosperity, is subject to severe reaction; at a time of economic unrest, grave labor agitation; danger of a rapid growth of socialism, in some instances tending toward a species of bolshevism, and during a period of lavish extravagance, the like of which the world has never known, it is paramount that the great demobilized Army of over 4,000,000 men, representing the youth of to-day and the brains of to-morrow, continue to be mobilized in a concerted effort toward maintaining a sane balance and ever encouraging Americanism, thrift, and reduction of governmental expenses. This is an age of money grabbing; an age when the slogan is: Get all you can from the Government and your neighbor. The tide is at its height and unless some one leads the way, the crest of the flood, which must recede, will leave untold disaster in its wake. What better leaders have we than the millions of ex-service men, speaking through the medium of their great organization, the American Legion? These men unflinchingly defended our country from sinister forces without which in the shape of the German peril sought to ravish its institutions, and now they are confronted with another enemy of our future prosperity—extravagance, high cost of living and governmental lavishness in useless expenditures. These men can be a mighty force, and perhaps the only force, that can successfully combat this impending evil. Therefore, I maintain that it is every soldier's duty who does not really need financial aid to unselfishly oppose this bill, in so far as it pertains to a cash bonus and proclaim that he, along with the rest of his

comrades in a like condition, does not need or desire this Government to tax the people to the extent of over \$2,000,000,000 to provide for this act. I am a member of the American Legion, but I can not help from taking this view, and I am not afraid to take the stand that some might think will jeopardize my influence with the leaders of to-morrow. Congress too should adopt this view without fear, because the unselfish and true soldier, I am sure, will back it up to the limit of his influence, and I feel that the majority of the soldiers, if they understood the question, and many do, will agree with me.

It is perfectly true that the profiteer reaped his harvest and the slacker garnered their ignominious spoils, while we sacrificed our all for the flag of freedom. Thousands upon thousands who might have gone, as a great many of us did, elected to stay behind to advance and wax fat because of the very nature of events, and thousands went into munition plants and shipyards, receiving big pay. Yet there were millions of brave men and women who could not leave home and who proved by their services and sacrifices to be true patriots. It was for this latter class, the vast majority of our people, and for posterity for whom we fought. It now behooves us as soldiers in this one instance to forget the profiteer and the slacker, banish from our hearts those strong feelings of resentment that this knowledge of what I have just said awakens and which seems to blindly impel the advocates of the additional bonus bill to enter the same arena as brother grafters, thereby stamping themselves as being of the same breed, brushing aside love of country in a mad attempt to glean more billions from the Government and, incidentally, from those, the great masses, who were patriots, and who will have to stand the additional burden of taxation. Those hundreds of thousands who do not need help would by influencing the passage of this act destroy all that was noble, humanitarian, and patriotic in their service to the flag, and at the same time repudiate the ideals of our forefathers and pollute the heritage of our posterity.

There are many other reasons why this bill should be rejected, the enumeration of which would take too much of your time. However, allow me to continue but briefly, because I feel a keen interest in the question and desire to express my humble views, with the earnest hope that they might meet your approbation.

This bill would exert a baneful influence on the economic tranquillity and prosperity of the entire country and, to a very great extent, on the South. You are aware of the fact that the South depends largely upon the Negro. To tell you that the great prosperity we are now enjoying, with its high wages it is next too impossible to get the negro to work more than three days a week is telling you something you are well aware of. There were thousands of negroes in the Army, mostly coming from the South. Give all of them who do not need it, if you please, about \$500 apiece (for that is about the average) as a mere hand-out and what will happen? It would merely invite untold inefficiency; lack of labor with corresponding disastrous results to the farmers and producers. For months the shiftless negro, and many white men of like temperament, would loaf. Our industries and producers would suffer, all of which during these days of increased consumption and reduced production would mitigate against the prosperity of the whole country. With the constantly increasing cost of living, overbalancing of consumption over production, and the steady migration from the country to industrial centers it is vital that those who labor and produce stick steadily to their tasks with increased efforts, so that production will again become normal. It is important that the trend from the farm to the cities should be inverted. Would an open inducement to the shiftless negro and irresponsible white who does not need assistance in the shape of a big check, inducing as it would in an irresistible manner their tendencies to loaf and go to the cities, offer a solution to the high cost of living? Would it increase the efficiency of this class of labor? Would it aid the farmer in harvesting his crops? Would it assist in the increased production of raw materials and the manufacture thereof? I answer no. Mind you, I do not refer to the better class of labor and men whose service caused real financial loss as being so affected. I merely refer to that shiftless lot, who unfortunately number well into the tens of thousands and who would squander the money uselessly.

What influence would this free hand-out have on thousands of others who do not need it? I say, without fear of successful contradiction, that in not one case out of a thousand would the money be spent wisely and for the purposes intended. During these days of lavish spending in a vast majority of the cases it would be blown in on good times and sporty clothes. Men would say,

"Well, I'll be d—d; look what's here," and they would argue that since they didn't have to work for this money and they did not count on it they might as well credit it to their pleasure account.

I repeat again that there are many individual cases that deserve help, and I am heartily in favor of a bill that will help these men. I am in favor of land grants and city homes to those who need same. I am in favor of a sort of board of governmental remuneration, established by the governor, to hear the claims of those who desire and can prove that they need help, with powers to give assistance, for instance, in the shape of a cash bonus, or a loan on long terms, with 3 per cent interest. I am in favor of vocational training and a substantial cash bonus to those who are disabled, and I am in favor of preference in Government positions to service men. But when it comes to a flat bonus of \$50 a month for every service man during the months he was in the service, especially when there are hundreds of thousands who do not need assistance, I can not, for the life of me, see how any unselfish American, especially a soldier, can favor it in the face of enormous cost to the Nation. I can not see how a service man who doesn't need help can, by so doing, sell his patriotism and refute the ideals of the past nation builders of this great Republic.

My opposition is aimed at the cash bonus for all ex-service men, irrespective of their condition of need. For a deserving man, and there were many, who sacrificed his all, and is now struggling for a living, handicapped by two years' loss; to the man who sold his farm and used the money to support his family and now can not buy another for twice the money he had sold it for; to the workingman who gave up his good job and used all or part of his earnings to support his family, and to many who from conditions peculiar to his own case made more than the usual sacrifice—give him a cash bonus or anything that will put him on his feet. Give ample help to the wounded—make it so that instead of them being pensioners they can face the world as equal to any man. But to those hundreds of thousands who really lost nothing but their time and who are now getting along all right I think should not get the cash bonus. If the individual be a poor man and deserves a chance, make it possible for him to get help in the shape of a loan on a home or farm on long time at very little interest. Help the needy, but do not drain the finances of this country to help the individual who either had money before he went into the Army or who is earning a salary or wage of, say, over \$2,000 a year now. My remarks above about the destruction of the American conception of patriotism is aimed at this class of men and not the deserving and disabled man.

The question needs careful deliberation, but for our country's sake and for our posterity do not lend your vote for a flat cash bonus to all men, irrespective of their condition of need or their right to claim help.

Yours, very truly,

ROLAND B. HOWELL.

BALTIMORE, MD., March 10, 1920.

To the honorable CHAIRMAN OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: As an American citizen and a former officer in the United States National Army, I feel that I must write to you to say that I am unalterably opposed to any plan to give the soldiers any bonus, and I trust that that legislation will be defeated. I am opposed to it for the following reasons:

1. The finances of this country can ill afford this further heavy drain. The market for Government bonds would be further depressed thereby and increased taxation would have to be resorted to.

2. The soldiers have been well provided for by a grateful country. They have received a \$60 bonus, and have benefited greatly by the provisions of the war-risk insurance act, which gave them comprehensive insurance at about one-fourth the premium rate of the large insurance companies, and it also gave them liberal cash allowances for the support of their dependent families. Furthermore, the many relief agencies which were supported by the American people spent millions to help them and their families and to provide the soldiers with little comforts and pleasures when they were in the camps of this country or overseas.

All military service is largely in some respects a sacrifice, but our Army was well paid, well provided for, and liberally treated by their country, and I consider it unjust to the country and a most unwise and extravagant policy

to increase our funded debt and to levy taxes on our taxpayers for this purpose. Let the States or the relief societies provide locally for those cases which may need assistance. This country owes the soldiers no further financial aid.

This proposed legislation to my mind would be far more pernicious than our Civil War pension system. The object of the war-risk insurance act was to place the matter of compensation on a scientific basis and to obviate anything in the nature of a pension.

The returned soldiers are a political force in this country, but their influence should be firmly withstood if they advocate any legislation that is clearly so injurious to the best interests of the country. I believe, however, the great majority of them, if they really understood the financial condition of the country and this whole situation of how well they have been treated that they would at once withdraw their advocacy of this legislation.

For your information I want to say that I obtained my commission as captain in the National Army at the first Officers' Training Camp at Fort Myer, Va., and that thereafter I served two years in the Army, almost one of which I served in France.

I trust that this proposed legislation will never be enacted into law.

Believe me to be,

Very truly, yours,

W. G. BOWDOIN, Jr.

PHELPS PUBLISHING CO.,
Springfield, Mass., March 12, 1920.

HON. J. W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Committee on Ways and Means,

Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. FORDNEY: As per your request, I write you briefly re service men. I am opposed to nearly all the suggestions thus far made for bonds, bonuses, or donations. It seems that a large proportion of the service men themselves are equally opposed.

If any form of bonus, why not let it be a United States certificate of honor made out to each individual, bearing his photograph, briefly describing his service, nontransferable, nonnegotiable, to pass only by will or inheritance. Bearing no coupon, but certifying that a specific sum will be paid annually by draft mailed direct to the holder so long as he keeps the Government advised of his post-office address. Such certificate would have no par value, no face value. It would be a certificate of honor entitling the holder to an annual honorarium of, say, \$1, \$5, \$10, or whatever nominal sum might be agreed upon as equal to, say, 5 per cent per annum for 10 or 20 years upon the equivalent of some minimum principal sum. The advantages of this plan to the Government are obvious and such certificates would be highly prized by their holders and by their descendants. This plan insures the income going to the beneficiaries also and avoids committing the Treasury to another bond issue representing a vast principal sum.

Whether this idea could be hitched in some way to Government insurance.

I am convinced that your committee should report a land bill. Base it upon the Federal farm loan act. Amend that act by adopting Senator Smoot's bill to liquidate the joint stock land banks that are being manipulated for private profit. Confine the system to Federal land banks. Raise the limit of loans from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Authorize national farm loan associations and Federal land banks to give preference in making loans to service men or women who can prove satisfactorily their ability to make good at farming. In the case of such men authorize the loan to be made not to exceed one-half larger than with other borrowers. Under certain circumstances loans might be made to service men for village or suburban homes under conditions carefully guarded against driving the men into cities when the rural districts need them so much more. The present law restricts loans to 50 per cent of the value of the farm land, plus 20 per cent of the insurable value of the buildings. The latter item might safely be amended to 40 per cent in all cases, while service men who are competent farmers might be loaned up to, say, 75 per cent of the ground value and 50 per cent of the building value. All this on underlying first mortgage through Federal farm loan system.

Now, this land question is so vast even from the standpoint of service men and women alone that the cooperation of each State is essential to solve it. Furthermore, any system while giving due preference to service men should at

the same time aim to accommodate all others worthy and capable of farming. Therefore add an entirely new department to the Federal farm-loan system. Authorize it to charter one or more agricultural banks in each State to finance second mortgages and even to make seasonal loans for crop purposes, to receive deposits, and do an agricultural banking business generally. The Government to advance, say, 25 per cent or 51 per cent of the initial capital of each bank, to be reimbursed out of earnings like Federal land banks. Provide that some or all of the remaining capital of each State agricultural bank be provided by the State itself by direct holdings or through investment therein of its school fund or other State funds. The idea is to secure the earnest cooperation of each State and to enlist the social, economical, and agricultural resources of each State and of the people of each State in the welfare of its own people by means of at least one such agricultural bank in each State that shall enjoy the joint supervision of the Federal farm-loan board and of the State banking commissioner. Such institution to have the right to issue debentures based upon its amortized second mortgages and seasonal loans, tax exempt so long as interest and installments on principal are paid when due. Of course, the interest on such second liens and upon the debentures secured thereby would have to be relatively higher than upon Federal farm-loan bonds. These debentures would be State, not Federal, so as to distinguish them sharply in appearance and name from Federal farm-loan bonds.

The above is the barest outline for what can be readily developed into a feasible method that will largely solve the rural land question as a whole while giving safe precedent to service men and women of proven farming ability. See my articles in *Farm and Home* for June and July, 1919. I have also taken the liberty of sending a copy to Hon. A. F. Leaver, of the Federal Farm Loan Board, who has had much thought and experience along this line.

If I can serve your committee or my country further, pray command me.

Very truly, yours,

HERBERT MYRICK.

WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS., *March 6, 1920.*

HON. ALLEN T. TREADWAY.

DEAR SIR: In response to your recent letter in re bonuses, I inclose a copy of the resolution as adopted by Williamstown Post No. 152 a month ago, in regard to the proposed dollar-a-day bonus plan. I also inclose a letter I wrote at that time to the North Adams Transcript and to the New York Times. When published in the latter they cut out a part of it, so I am sending the inclosed copy that you may see the whole of it. I do not mean to include in it any reference to the proper care of, or provision for, the men who were injured, or permanently incapacitated in the war, but only those who came back able-bodied, and able to work.

My feelings on the subject were made much more definite by the report of the legion's State employment committee chairman, at the last State convention, at which I was a delegate, in which he stated that out of some 800 applications to their bureau for work only about 300, or less, accepted positions, while less than 500 even bothered to go and find out the nature of the jobs they were offered. This report seems to me to bear out the experience of several employers to whom I have talked, who said that the men for whom they have saved jobs while the men were in the Army have come back, with a few exceptions, with the idea that either the jobs they had previously held are not good enough for them now or that they didn't want any jobs at all. The great bulk of the men who demand these bonuses only want to be supported by the country for a few years or for good, and most of the money, if paid, will be "blown in," and there will be another demand for "help" very soon after. I would like to suggest that some plan be proposed, along the lines of your bill, but having a definite provision that any one who gets help from the fund should be able to show a clear intention of doing something toward his support, himself, possibly making the distribution of the money on a pro-rata basis, depending on the amount the man earned himself, but on a sliding scale, of course, so the men who are earning most would not get all of it; but so that a man who honestly tried to support himself would be able to get help if he needed it. I don't know just how such an arrangement could be made, but I feel confident that if it were known that a man had to be willing to work, to get any help, there would be lots less help asked for, and a still

louder howl from the ones who are demanding it now, for the reason that the ones who are complaining the most are the ones who do not want to have to work.

In regard to your bill, and the opinion of this post in regard to it, at a meeting this week the vote was that it seemed the best such bill yet. In talking to a number of the men afterwards, the general consensus of opinion seemed to be that what they liked about it was the fact that it did not provide for a flat bonus to every man, regardless of his need for it; but, on the other hand, it does allow of a lot of chance for misrepresentation as to the extent or existence of such need, as the exact qualifications for receiving help are not sufficiently specified. There would be a tremendous chance for a post commander, for instance, if he were playing petty politics in his own post, to recommend any number of his members for bonuses, and there does not seem to be any way to check up the accuracy of his recommendations, as the board, or State treasurer, State legion chairman, and State adjutant general, or any other board, would be unable to get the truth of any claim for assistance, except from the man who made the recommendation. All this, of course, is unofficial, and, as I said, the post voted its approval of your bill. I make these comments on my own opinion and on that of the men who expressed it after the vote had been taken.

I may add that I have had numberless expressions of approval from other people in town, on my stand in regard to bonuses in general, as expressed in the inclosed letter to the Times; in fact, I have had a great many more agreeing with me than opposed. The majority of the letters criticizing me were anonymous, which shows the character of their authors pretty conclusively.

I do hope that there will be no provision for bonuses of any kind, though I am afraid that is too much to hope for. I do not mean to include in that any measure to provide for the crippled or incapacitated, for whom I feel the country can not do enough. If economy is necessary, and that is certainly true, start the economy on questions of this kind and let us have a thorough system of universal, compulsory, military training, with a small standing army.

Yours, sincerely,

DONALD B. SINCLAIR, M. D.

P. S.—The following names are among those in this town who have expressed to me their approval of my stand in regard to bonuses; I can not remember all of them:

C. G. Smith, J. Fred Walden, Geo. H. Schryver¹, Rev. R. H. Tibbals¹, Rev. J. Franklin Carter, T. M. Banks, Geo. B. Waterman, Brainerd Mears, Jas. L. Kellogg, H. A. Garfield, Geo. H. Howes, E. Crosby Doughty¹, Ralston Doughty, W. Howard Doughty, Jr., E. I. Goodrich, Vanderpoel Adriance, M. D.¹, Norman B. McWilliams, M. D.¹, Thomas Seymour¹, Jas. B. Brinsmade¹, S. F. Clarke, Willard B. Clark, Willard E. Hoyt, Wm. C. Hart, Edw. A. McMaster, Fred E. Moore, J. S. Galbraith, Walter W. McLaren, Karl E. Weston, John Steel¹, Wm. Scribner, Harold Vallancourt¹, Earle O. Brown¹, Asa W. Morton, E. A. Green, Carroll L. Maxcy, Dr. F. H. Howard¹, Ingersoll D. Townsend¹, Jas. H. Welch, Carl S. Hoar¹, Theodore B. Hewitt, Carl W. Johnson¹, W. E. McElfresh, Douglas Wild¹, Elmer I. Shepard¹, Perry A. Smedley, H. L. Agard, A. H. Buffinton, Ferris Conklin¹, W. J. Humphries¹, E. H. Botsford, Mrs. J. P. Blackinton (of Blackinton, Mass.), Mrs. J. Sinclair, Miss Helen Hart.

D. B. S.

[Copy of letter written to New York Times and North Adams Transcript.]

WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS., February 17, 1920.

DEAR SIR: I have observed with deep regret the evident tendency of ex-service men to try to get everything they can work out of the Government in the form of bonuses of one kind or another. The attitude of a great many of the ex-service men and, unfortunately, of many posts in the American Legion seems to be that we all deserve a great deal more than we have received from the Government and from the country as a whole as a "reward" for our services. Of course, the cry is raised, "Look at what we gave up to go into the Army; all the expenses we had to meet; all the loss of income it meant." Very true, but the people who claim these bonuses and other forms of graft seem to have lost sight of the following facts:

1. That we did no more than fulfill our obligations to this country as its citizens in going into the Army to defend the country and, incidentally, our own

¹ Ex-service men.

homes from imminent and terrible danger; an obligation that we younger men have been under all our lives and have never had to fulfill until this war came along.

2. That the United States Army was far better paid, in all ranks, than any other army in the war.

3. That in adopting the war-risk insurance system the country has done for its soldiers something that no other country has done; and

4. The \$60 bonus given to each man, amounting roughly to \$300,000,000, was a free gift, which the country was in no wise bound to make.

And even were the claims for bonuses based on justice, where is the money coming from to pay the billions that are asked for? Whence but from the pockets of the men and women of the country in further taxes to be added to the high cost of living? Our war debt now is an appalling figure; why add to it another cent? I feel that I have a right to speak by virtue of 20 months' service, 19 of which were spent in foreign service.

And as for the action of the American Legion through our national executive committee in actually urging the passage of the demand for more money, I am horribly disappointed. The legion was begun with the highest ideals of service to the country, of inculcating a sense of individual obligation to the community, the State, and the Nation, and of making the United States a better place to live in; and here at the first opportunity we are demanding billions as an additional reward for having done merely what it was our duty to do. It is utterly unworthy of the legion to lower itself to such a policy of self-seeking.

I was glad to see the protest by Mr. Lucien S. Breckenridge, of the executive committee of the New York County American Legion, against this action of the legion. He is absolutely right in what he says, and I am glad to be able to back up his attitude and that of his committee by saying that this post has put itself on record as protesting against the action of the Massachusetts convention, American Legion, in advocating the passage of the "dollar-a-day bonus" bill.

I hope the thoughtful and high-minded men and women of the country, and especially those in the membership of the legion, will in no uncertain terms protest against this prospective legislation as class legislation of the most bare-faced and indefensible variety; legislation that puts a terrific burden on the whole country for the benefit of one already amply paid class.

Yours, truly,

[Extract from minutes of meeting of Williamstown Post, No. 152, Tuesday evening, Feb. 3, 1920.]

* * * The question of the \$1 per day bonus was taken up and discussed. While a few comrades favored this bonus scheme, the majority seemed to feel that in addition to the tremendous financial burden which it would impose on the Government it would not accord with the spirit of patriotic service which impelled men to give their services in defense of their country without thought of capitalizing their patriotism. Therefore to get the expression of the opinion of the post a motion was made that this post go on record as being opposed to the passage of this bill. This motion was carried by a large majority, there being two dissenting votes. The motion carried the further instructions that this action be transmitted to State department headquarters, and that it be published in the local papers.

* * * * *

E. CROSBY DOUGHTY, *Adjutant*.

Boston, Mass., March 10, 1920.

Hon. RICHARD OLNEY, 2d.

United States Congress, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I am the father of two sons who have served in the great World War. One having served with the One hundred and first Engineers and the other with the flying corps of the English Army. My sons inform me that they are ashamed to think that so many soldiers are in favor of the bonus bill which is now before Congress, and I am writing this letter to protest

against the passage of said bill, and I feel that I can consistently do so in view of the statement above made. In my opinion, it is placing an unjust burden upon the public.

Very truly, yours,

C. C. FERRIS.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY NEWTON POST, NO. 48, AMERICAN LEGION, RELATIVE TO \$50 A MONTH BONUS.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by Newton Post, No. 48, American Legion, at its regular monthly meeting held March 8, 1920:

Whereas the American Legion in convention assembled at Minneapolis, November 11, 1919, did vote that the question of extra pay or adjusted compensation for ex-service men and women should be left for decision to the Congress of the United States; and

Whereas the national executive committee of the American Legion did on the 9th of February, 1920, state to Congress that all service men and women are entitled to adjusted compensation in the form and amount of a \$50 bond per month of service; and

Whereas the headquarters of the Massachusetts department, American Legion, has urged posts and individuals to take such action as will assist in the passage of this legislation: Therefore be it hereby

Resolved, That Newton Post, No. 48, American Legion, believes it the first duty of American Legion to endeavor through proper legislation to take care of the wounded and disabled and their direct dependents, the widows and orphans of our comrades who died in service, and those ex-service men who may be in actual need; and be it

Further resolved, That Newton Post, No. 48, American Legion, believes it ill advised, both from the standpoint of the American Legion itself and from the standpoint of its relation to the country as a whole, to press the demand thus initiated by its national executive committee; and be it

Further resolved, That copies of these resolutions be spread on all the records of the post and forwarded to all interested parties.

C. SINCLAIR WEEKS, *Post Commander*.
ARTHUR R. STUBBS, *Post Adjutant*.

MARCH 11, 1920.

[Telegram.]

JACKSON, MISS., March 12, 1920.

HON. J. W. FORDNEY.

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

This leading commercial organization of Mississippi urges most respectfully that your committee recommend for passage the Mondell soldiers' settlement bill (H. R. 487), as we believe that it will be of greater benefit to service men and to the Nation than any cash or bond bonus to them.

JACKSON BOARD OF TRADE,
J. B. LUST, *Secretary*.

BRITTANY PATROL, UNITED STATES NAVY POST,
AMERICAN LEGION,
New York, March 11, 1920.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I have been instructed by the president of the Brittany Patrol Post, No. 847 of the American Legion, to forward to you the following resolution, which was adopted by the post at a meeting held in New York on March 3, 1920:

That, inasmuch as the national council of the American Legion propose to bring before Congress in the near future, contrary to the vote of the Legion convention, the recommendation that there be appropriated by congressional enactment providing for additional compensation to those members of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps who served in the war a sufficient sum to grant

to all of the above a \$50 Government bond for every month of service during the war with Germany, in addition to the \$60 already granted; therefore be it

Resolved, That such legislation on the part of Congress would not, in the opinion of the members of the Brittany Patrol Post, American Legion, be to the best interests of ex-service men nor of the country; and be it

Further resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the chairman of the committee in Congress, the Senate committee having this matter in hand, to the commander of the American Legion, at Indianapolis, to the American Legion Weekly, and that the resolution be given further publicity as may be possible in the press.

All the members of this post served overseas during the war.

Very truly, yours,

CARROLL S. BAYNE, *Secretary*.

MARCH 10, 1920.

TO THE CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

SIR: At a meeting of the William B. Cornish Post, No. 183, of the American Legion, Madison, N. J., the following resolutions were drawn up and unanimously passed: Be it

Resolved, That this post go on record as protesting against the passage of any bill whereby cash bonuses are granted to ex-service men, but heartily indorse any measure putting public lands at their disposal for occupation and settlement. Be it further

Resolved, That we deplore the method and slowness with which the rehabilitation of the incapacitated soldiers has gone forward.

Respectfully submitted.

J. T. SPICKNALL,
First Lieutenant, Field Artillery.
RAYMOND A. HALL,
Ensign, Naval Aviation.

NEW YORK CITY, March 3, 1920.

CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: As a recently discharged volunteer in the A. E. F., who spent nearly 23 months in France, most of which time I served with the French Army and also as a member of the American Legion, I beg to most emphatically protest against any plan that contemplates giving a money bonus to the discharged unwounded soldier for his services in the late war.

A totally false idea and mistaken sentiment have spread abroad on this subject, and those favoring such a plan seem to fail to realize that these men have done but their duty, the duty which is incumbent upon every male citizen, not only of their age, but upon every man who is physically fit to serve and defend his country against an enemy, as he would defend his wife and children against an assassin or an intruder, and surely for the latter no man would ask a bonus.

Such a plan as is indicated in the press dispatches from Washington is not only unreasonable and would be a piece of pure graft, but it would be unacceptable to those who place patriotism and self-sacrifice for country above personal gain, and I am glad to say there are many thousands who share this view.

The disabled and incapacitated should be well provided for in any event, and the man who can show that by reason of his service he has suffered financially should be aided in "getting on his feet"; not, however, at the expense of the already overburdened taxpayer, but at the cost, if possible, to the highwayman in labor's ranks and the dishonest profiteer, who measured their patriotism by the amount of their wages and graft wrung from this Nation and its allies at the moment when the foundations of our civilization were at stake.

Had the Government, on the declaration of war, called to the colors the manpower of the Nation between the ages of 18 and 45, and put all on the same relative basis, the man who worked in the factory and elsewhere would not have received five times the wages of the man who wore the uniform, and the unpatriotic and high-handed methods of labor and the complaints of the soldier would not have occurred; but because of this error then, it hardly seems reasonable that Congress is warranting now in committing a second error in order to equalize the consequences of the former one.

Our men have received the highest pay given in any of the armies and have endured but a few months of the hardships of actual fighting, viz. from the late spring to the fall of 1918. The French soldier who bore the brunt of the war for over four years and held back the horde of barbarians until we could get ready, received but 5 cents a day, as compared to a minimum of over \$1 a day for his American ally, the majority of whom had the most beneficial and instructive experience of their lives.

The men who served their country have won a priceless heritage, and one that nine-tenths of them are justly and truly proud of; but to reward the able-bodied of them for their services by a money bonus would be not only an act of unwarranted extravagance with the people's money, in excess even of the pension steal, but a stigma on the patriotism of the American soldier of the Great War.

Very truly, yours,

CHAS. S. BRYAN,
Lieutenant Colonel, United States Reserve.

NEW YORK, March 15, 1920.

HON. J. W. FORDNEY,
*Chairman Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I send you inclosed copy of a resolution which was adopted by the regimental post of Three hundred and fifth Field Artillery of the American Legion of the Seventy-seventh Division on Thursday evening last. It was passed unanimously, after full debate, at a very large meeting. I think it represents the mature view of the men of that regiment.

In my opinion, the agitation for a flat cash bonus, regardless of all other interest, has been the instigation of interested politicians rather than of the men themselves. Of course, the men when asked whether they would like such a bonus naturally say yes, but when they have an opportunity to hear the question discussed they are almost unanimously against turning their organization into an engine to get it.

Faithfully, yours,

HENRY L. STIMSON, *Post Commander.*

Be it resolved, That while it is the feeling of the members of this post that the Nation owes an obligation to the men and women who served in the war which has not been fulfilled, and while we should welcome its proper fulfillment, yet it is the strong sense of this post that no organized pressure should be brought to bear upon the Congress by the American Legion except in favor of the wounded, the widows, and orphans and such as are in similar actual need.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., March 11, 1920.

Chairman FORDNEY,
*House Ways and Means Committee,
Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: As a former service member opposed to a general grant of money to ex-service men permit me to invite your attention to the fact that those who would benefit most by the "length-of-service plan" are, in many cases, those who had it "soft" during the war. Indeed, those with longest service will usually be found in the softest places.

A concrete example is found in the United States Coast Guard. The men in the stations pursued ordinary vocations, were in absolutely no unusual danger, drew much higher pay than usual, and even lived right at home with their families just as though there was no war, yet these men are those with longest service—having been in the Coast Guard before the war and still in it.

One unfamiliar with the Army can hardly realize the enormous number of "soft" places for the ordinary enlisted man as well as the noncoms and commissioned officers. Off-hand I should say that even in France the "soft" places outnumber the real service places about three to one. When consideration is given the thousands on duty in the Canal Zone, Hawaii, and the Philippines, practically usual duty at war pay and allowances, and the other thousands—

almost millions—on duty here at home the “length-of-service plan” becomes nothing but “graft.”

For those with real service, injured in the line of duty, I am anxious for consideration, but I think our laws—with slight amendment, possibly—properly administered, offer all justice. I strongly deplore any grab-bag policy. The Nation paid unjust millions both to the Civil and Spanish War men, and the present situation should not be so treated.

When material inadequacies are being cited by the “grabbers” I never hear them cite the principal reason for entering the service. We talk of “patriotism,” etc., very glibly, but the compelling reason for entering is the chance to see the “big show.” Now, “big shows” cost money, and the audience should pay the entrance fee. I am patriotic with my fellows, but in all justice the “big show” attracted me and was not the least of my reasons for entering. We are all kids when the “big show” arrives, and without money, we want to carry water to gain admission; 95 per cent of service men got all that was coming to them, 5 per cent need help and attention. In the name of justice I speak for the 5 per cent.

Yours, truly,

M. P. HITZ.

UNITED VETERANS OF THE REPUBLIC.
Dayton, Ohio, March 8, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Ways and Means Committee,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

HONORABLE SIR: Press notices indicate that the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives are hearing representatives of various existing war veterans' organizations on the subject matter contained in bills and resolutions introduced in Congress for the purpose of increasing the national debt to an enormous degree by the issuance of additional bonuses to ex-service men and women who served with the colors during the World War, and, to satisfy the members of our organization, I request permission to add to the discussion being entertained by your committee, pro and con, by representatives of other war veterans' organizations, relative to the merits or demerits of the proposed bills and resolutions now being introduced in Congress to pay additional bonuses to participants and nonparticipants in the combative service of the Government during the World War, the nonparticipants (let it be understood) are the “conscientious objectors” who were favored with honorable discharges from the service and payment of the bonus, consequently having been given the same status as those who served this Nation honorably, and against this latter class being any further favored by being granted an additional bonus, on behalf of the organization which I represent I protest against the granting of any bonus or additional recognition to this class of individuals known and classified as “conscientious objectors.”

My understanding is that all bills and resolutions introduced in the House relative to the payment of additional bonuses are to be analyzed by your committee for the purpose of formulating some plan or bill that will nearly conform to the best interests of the ex-service men and women of the World War, without adding too great a burden (financially) upon the American public, who must pay the bill.

I do not take it upon myself mentally to assume any threatening attitude in presenting to your honorable committee for consideration suggestions which may or may not appear to your committee to be of merit, and I consider that the practice of attempting to browbeat the Members of the House and Senate is actually a repetition and emulation of the practice of the ancient Roman legions, and not, by any means, consistent with American ideals, and a practice utterly at variance with making the world safe for democracy, and especially that part of the world known as the United States of America, and this practice does not meet with approval by the members of our organization or by the American public, who are the last but not the least victims.

I do not present any mythical figures of a watered-stock membership of hundreds of thousands or millions as a bugaboo or a mailed fist in presenting this protest and these suggestions to your honorable committee, and while our organization is composed of the veterans of all American war of both sexes and colors, I do not assume the right to represent all the veterans of all the American wars, and I wish to assure you that this message to your honorable

committee will not be followed by an individual or collective threat against the Members of the House or Senate of their political decapitation at the next election should they not surrender in acquiescence to our opinion in the matter of bonuses.

I believe that the bonus question would have been settled by the payment of the \$60 bonus per capita to officers and enlisted men and women upon their discharge from war service, had it not been for two seeming wastes of public money, which now cause those who served honorably in the World War to make invidious comparisons of the expenditures extravagantly indulged in by Congress during the World War and since:

First. By giving conscientious objectors the same status as those who were actually engaged in service, and paying them an equal bonus of \$60, which is seemingly recognized as an error in judgment on the part of Congress or whoever conceived the idea of equalizing the status of conscientious objectors with that of the officers and enlisted men and women who all automatically became beneficiaries under the bonus act brought about by amendments to the revenue laws.

Second. By giving a bonus payment of \$240 to civilian clerks and Government employees, even without their having made general demand therefor, and it would only seem fair, at this time, in order to correct this egregious blunder, that a sum equal to the \$240 be granted to ex-service men and women of the World War, except conscientious objectors, *Provided, however*, That such additional bonus be paid only to those who may file claim and give proof of right thereto within 90 days after the passage of said extra bonus bill, as may be formulated by your committee, approved and passed by Congress, and signed by the President, and, from the fact that it is common knowledge that many of the civilian clerks in Government employ and other Government employees during the war took the positions vacated by the enlistment of the soldiers, sailors, and marines (such positions being vacated for the purpose of defending their country), it would only seem fair and just that an equal amount to that given the civilians should now be given to the ex-service men and women who served honorably during the World War (except conscientious objectors), in order that this egregious blunder may be corrected, for if it is worth a \$240 bonus to serve the country as a civilian clerk or employee, it must certainly be worth an equal amount to serve the country with the colors in time of war, and this argument might be at least worth considering by your committee, for it is the consensus of opinion among our members, and I believe, among the general American public, that such will be the only solution of the present labyrinth into which Congress itself has forced the Nation, whose desire is to see justice accorded by your committee, into whose hands the formulation of such plan has been placed.

In regard to the conscientious objectors, against whom our protest is made, if this class is to be any further recognized and favored, the German and Austrian soldiers, against whom our men fought, may recognize the same right of concession in the payment of bonuses to them, and if it should not be forthcoming to them, they may ask the American Congress to define the word Democracy, for, if internal foes are being recognized as individuals of merit, why is it not logical to recognize foreign foes as well, for the latter class have, at least, some status as fighters, and even though they have been conquered, their status should be considered above that of the conscientious objectors, for their lives were at stake, and they have established a status with their own Governments as soldiers, whereas the conscientious objectors should be scorned (not not rewarded), by all men who applaud American ideals.

I believe that the payment of any form of bonus in interest-bearing bonds, as demanded by the Legion, will be too great a burden for the American public and the ex-service men of other wars, who have footed the bill and loaned the Government money during the perior of the World War by the purchase of Liberty bonds, war saving certificates, thrift stamps, and by their contributions to the various welfare organizations, who had in charge the providing of comforts and luxuries to those who served during the World War, which were never provided before by this Government for the soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in previous wars.

It is an ineradicable blot upon war veterans organizations to have any one of them assume the right, as an organization, to make threats against the Members of the House or the Senate who are the supreme legislative body of the great American Nation, should they do, or not do, the bidding of individual officials, such bidding not being unanimously indorsed by their own organiza-

tions, and it must be remembered that ex-service men and women of other wars than the World War, and the American public, are also component elements of this Government, as well as those who resort to these threats of political demise of Members of Congress, who are now called upon to do their duty, which call is paramount to these Members, in so far as duty is concerned, which, in some instances, was forced upon these leaders by law by reason of the selective service draft act (otherwise they would not have been in the service), and would not now be practicing demagogic tactics.

Our organization favored compulsory military training, but, as the legion has placed such a high cost on patriotism, the general public can not now be convinced but that the first rule of compulsory military training is a kindergarten rule to the student citizen soldiers, which will inculcate into their minds the acts perpetrated upon the Nation by their predecessors, by inflicting financial burdens upon the Nation for their own private gain, instead of the first rule being to be trained in the art of war so as to prevent needless sacrifice of life, because of ignorance of military tactics, with no thought of pecuniary emoluments, and with no thought except that of being actuated by the noblest sentiment in man in defending his country in time of war—100 per cent patriotism must be in evidence, if there is such a thing as 100 per cent Americanism.

I do not believe that any leader of any war veteran organization has the right to assume the proxy of his organization in making threats, political or otherwise, against the Members of Congress, and I consider it far from commendable, at this time, or at any other time, in the future, on the part of war veteran organization leaders, or committees, to assume nihilistic attitudes when dealing with the American Congress, for, in returning to private citizenship, the American soldier, sailor, and marine has full control of his vote, and is not under the orders of any officer as to how his vote shall be cast, and does not surrender his franchise by becoming associated with any of the various existing war veteran organizations.

The American public, should they become aroused, will voice their sentiment against additional taxation, and the argument used to the effect that the idle rich and the profiteers must furnish the finances to pay the additional bonus demanded is not recognized to be of merit, for the reason that the idle rich and the profiteers are not subject to any law that would prevent them from adding additional taxation onto the prices of commodities used by the consumer, who, in the end, becomes the sole victim of all sorts of freak legislation.

Our organizations has declared itself openly as a political body, but we are nonpartisan, and we believe that our principles are founded on Americanism, and we do not believe in bluffadocio methods.

The veterans of the World War who were wounded in the service, or became otherwise afflicted, or who may, hereafter, become afflicted, should be provided for continually by the Government of the United States, but not to the exclusion of the veterans of past wars of the United States, whose wounds and infirmities make them also wards of the Nation, for this latter class have never received the benefits of war-risk insurance, compensation, vocational training, land grants, etc.; gratuities which have been accorded to the veterans of the World War only, and there should be some degree of sanity exhibited to your honorable committee by representatives of veterans of the World War, even though such representatives do not represent 25 per cent of the actuals in service, and it is expected that the same degree of sanity will be exhibited by Members of Congress in dealing with the bonus question.

The veterans of no other war (except the class during the Civil War who received bounties) have ever received bonuses, and all ex-service men and women of all wars and the American public should accept any bill prepared by your committee and should reason in consonance with the principles of fairness in settling a problem that demands additional taxation, even though such be of a minimum degree, and the veterans of past wars, some aged, disabled, and otherwise afflicted by reason of their war service, and the dependents of those so afflicted and of those departed are a part of this Nation who must bear the additional burden of taxation, and, while they are at present seeking pensions and increases of pensions from this Nation, no legislation for ex-service men of the World War should be proposed or enacted that would be of a discriminatory nature against that class of patriots, some of whom are still unfavored by pension laws on the statute books for themselves or their dependents, and all, or nearly all, of whom contributed their aid in winning the World War.

It may be viewed as a ridiculous suggestion were I to ask your honorable committee to devise ways and means for the purpose of turning the Statue of Liberty around so that we may all ask the renowned goddess what was meant by the slogan used during the last Liberty loan campaign—"Let's finish the job"—for in her present position, facing Europe, she seems, figuratively speaking, to disdain her own favored people, and while this may be a ridiculous suggestion it can not be considered any more so than the demand for a \$50 bond for each month in service, or fractional part thereof, per capita to those who served honorably during the World War as an extra gratuity to what has already been granted.

The American people recognize that some one holds the straw that will break the camel's back and they also recognize that if there ever was a time when the Members of Congress should have the courage of their own convictions in representing their constituencies it is now.

We hope that your honorable committee will be able to arrive at some tangible decision, to be reported unanimously to Congress, and that you will take into consideration that the high cost of patriotism, added to the high cost of living, will be, indeed, a great menace to the American people, and that the time for the passage of some remedial measure can not be delayed until after the election. for, if this latter suggestion is not considered, the American Nation will be compelled to bear an additional burden of hearing candidates for public office abuse political rhetoric to the extent that no one but ex-service men and women (and the spellbinders) are entitled to any of this Nation's sympathy or support; and as a finale, let me suggest to your committee that in considering this legislation all component elements of this Nation be given due consideration and a square deal.

In this call upon your committee for some idea to correct the situation, you have acted fairly in giving an impartial hearing to those who favor and to those who do not favor additional bonuses, and your plan may not work out, but whatever is done try if possible to prevent future duplication of the lamentable predicament in which this Nation now finds itself on the question of granting gratuities to those who served with the colors in time of war.

Trusting that you may be able to find some merit in this communication and that all sentiment expressed herein may not appear to your honorable committee as being ridiculous and with a hope that a final solution is imminent, I am.

Very truly, yours,

FRANK F. JONES,
President National Council United Veterans of the Republic.

DAYTON, OHIO, March 18, 1930.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
Member of Congress, Washington, D. C.

HONORABLE SIR: Your letter of the 15th instant acknowledging receipt of my protest against further "gratuities" being given by the Government to "conscientious objectors," etc., received in due time, and I wish to correct your evident impression that my protest represented only the sentiment of one subordinate unit of the organization, for the fact is that I was delegated authority to represent the organization in general, the same as National Commander Franklin D'Oller represented the American Legion, but although some of my sentences may have appeared ridiculous to your honorable committee I do not desire to have my utterances classified as "a la Utopia."

I am pleased to advise you of an "editorial letter" in the Dayton (Ohio) Journal, this a. m., quoted verbatim, as follows:

"I am not in favor of advancing further loans to any country until we have reached a point where we have met our obligations to our people at home," Chairman Fordney, of the Ways and Means Committee, declared, debate in House. What's this? Pro-Americanism in our midst?"

This may interest you, as it interests others who are advocating pro-Americanism.

Very truly, yours,

FRANK F. JONES,
President National Council, United Veterans of the Republic.

PHILADELPHIA, March 4, 1920.

HON. HENRY W. WATSON,

308 House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: I notice in the papers that the American Legion appears to be back of an effort to compensate all men who were in the military service during the recent war by giving them a bonus, payable in United States bonds, at the rate of \$50 a month for each month of service.

As one who served throughout the war, having attended the first training camp and having been fortunate enough to be sent abroad and to be a member of the American Expeditionary Forces, I want to express my very strong views in opposition to any such system of general bounty to the members of the Army during the period of the war. There is no question that many of them suffered pecuniarily by being in the Army, and that the pay of enlisted men was entirely disproportionate to the pay received by those who stayed at home and did war work; and if Congress had recognized this in time and had raised the pay of the enlisted men during the war it would have met with my hearty support; but, in my opinion, to make a gift of this character at the present time, when few of the men actually need it (although it would be welcome to all), would be most unfortunate, as it would be followed, no doubt, year by year by increasing demands, such as followed the Civil War, in the form of the pension legislation.

I am heartily in favor of giving most generous assistance to those who were disabled, in the form of pensions, and of giving them vocational training for occupations which they can fill in spite of their disability. The blind, the totally disabled, and the maimed, who must seek other occupations, should receive the Government's constant attention. An able-bodied officer or soldier will be harmed more than helped by a bounty from the Government at the present time, in my judgment.

I do not know what your attitude may be toward universal military training, but in closing this letter I wish to urge you in the strongest manner to give your support to a bill for universal military training under proper provisions when the opportunity may offer.

Yours, truly,

CLEMENT B. WOOD,

Formerly Major Three hundred and eleventh Field Artillery,
American Expeditionary Forces,
Conshohocken, Pa.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., March 22, 1920.

Congressman JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Committee on Ways and Means,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. FORDNEY: Your letter and telegram in response to my letter of last week on the bonus question received.

It is impossible for me to be in Washington this week; therefore, I inclose a letter from Mr. Harrison, our State leader for the legion in Arkansas, and I will give a brief summary of my own views:

1. The question is of great importance, and one that I would have to talk to you about at great length for you to be able to get my position and how I arrived at the same. When the American Legion was in its formation at St. Louis, it looked on the second day that it would fail, because of the bolsterousness and selfishness of the majority. I had some convictions of what the legion ought to be; was asked to make that speech, and the speech I made, it is said, saved the American Legion and launched it before this country as a great patriotic, loyal, nonpolitical, serving, and unselfish organization. From that speech I was soon drafted into the service, along with Col. Roosevelt, as a national speaker in the formation of the legion throughout the country, and in the six months in that capacity, speaking in more than a score of States South, West, East, and North, I met these men first hand from the privates to Gen. Pershing. I spoke in great assemblies and listened always to the views of all the men.

It may be that the majority of the men in the American Legion favor bonus. I certainly feel that the majority of them do not favor the demanding of a bonus, or even asking for the same. Most of us are soldiers, unselfish and

ready to sacrifice still. Some of them may be in great need, but I often think those in the greatest need have the greatest pride, and by all means they want all thought of their service to their country and humanity in this past Great War removed from all semblance of petty politics, graft, and selfishness.

I had this thought in mind: I dare say there is hardly a man, especially if the question had not gotten to where it has, looking as though the soldiers were taking the lead in filching something out of their Government, putting us in a most embarrassing position—I say if it had not come to the state of affairs that it has, there is hardly a man who would not have accepted a token of esteem from grateful hearts, if this country is rich enough to afford it, in some more or less substantial form or material benefit, but most of us, if I know the doughboy, surely abhor the thought of bonus or pay per day, as though it could be paid for the services of a soldier for the salvation of humanity and the preservation of our great American ideals.

In a selfish moment, in a money-mad age, we seemed to have lost sight of our higher ideals, and the discussion at the present is contrary to the American traditions of nobleness in her citizenship, manhood, and soldiering. It certainly is embarrassing to loyal hearts to be put before the country in the light that we have asked for this thing and that we are demanding it.

2. It must be thoroughly understood that I love these men with all my heart, and these who will make this mistake I love them none the less, but I love my country more, and I am thinking of the spirit of sacrifice that we should make in this great hour, when civilization and Americanism, law and order, are passing through such a crisis. It was my plea months ago, and it is the same now, that those who made the greatest sacrifice on the battle field will be the first to make another great sacrifice, and forever stopping mouths of these radicals and bonus hounds from the shipyards and other lucrative positions of safety during the war, and thus give our country and our Congress something further to point to with pride when they ask the American people to stand steady and go forward. I know that some of these boys have been placed under heavy expenses on their return home; some have gotten married, and they need something, and to a great many of them it would be very acceptable; but as for me, I would rather be \$1,000 in debt and an ex-soldier of this war, with a song of joy in my heart and conscience of an abiding peace that nothing can destroy that I was willing to do my bit, than to have \$1,000 in my pocket and no debt and be an ex-ship worker or any other so-called haven of escape.

3. Generally speaking, I feel very strongly about men who were disabled or in anywise seriously incapacitated. The Government should not lose time, nor spare means in finding all these men and liberally determining their needs, and doing for them all they deserve and more.

4. I feel that the legion swung to its present position largely because of its desire for great numbers in its membership, hoping for 4,000,000 men, then they would have the power to put over whatever program we might deem worthy. They felt, no doubt, many of the leaders, that if we did not get them, then the radical soldiers' organization, that your committee is familiar with, would get them. Well, when the legion made that step they forsook the ideals of the St. Louis caucus, and we said plainly we stand for 100 per cent Americanism, for patriotism, for the inspiration and ideals of our great American forefathers, and with a great, rousing voice we followed one of our gallant leaders that this should be our motto: "Not here to get something from the Government, but put something into the Government." I would to God to-day that the American Legion would stand on that platform, if only 500,000 men would stand with them, rather than to have 500,000,000 men move by selfish motives. It is a great pity that the drift has come as it has. I have not lost hope. The men in their need, for some of them do need, and others unthoughtful, others inspired by political motives, others by selfishness, and others without real consideration of all that is back of this question, are just not themselves to-day. They are not doing the things and saying the things they will be proud to talk to their children about in the evening time of their life. But they are all buddies, and we are mighty hopeful.

I might conclude by saying that if this matter could be gotten clear away from the bonus question, and cleared up in the minds of the people, and the country is able to do something, then you are not apt to do too much for these men in accordance with our national wealth for what they did and for what they were willing to do, but for God's sake let us come back to our higher selves and get this matter above peanut or party politics and above all thought of owing these men debts that can be paid for in dollars and cents, or a pacify-

ing bonus, but rather let us still be brave, faithful, loyal, chivalrous, sacrificing sons, and if all this country is able to do at the present time, or any future time is to rise up and call us blessed and say you are our brave boys, and we are proud of you, God knows that is all we want. Let the thought of the service we sought to render remain in your hearts along with the work of Washington, Lincoln, and Lee, defenders of democracy and Americanism, lovers of humanity and freedom, and lads from the land of the free and the home of the brave. In the name of heaven the greatest thing that Congress can do for us is to insure to the people of the United States and the suffering people of the world that they shall have the things that we went out to fight for—peace and rights, liberties and protection, and a Christian civilization.

I am inclosing herewith letter from Hon. W. W. Holloway.

Sincerely, yours,

JOHN W. INZER.

KANSAS CITY, KANS., March 20, 1920.

Chaplain JOHN W. INZER.

408 Oak Street, Chattanooga, Tenn.

MY DEAR INZER: I have your good letter of the 16th instant relative to the bonus proposition and note what you have to say regarding a proposed trip to Washington by Harriston, of Little Rock, yourself, and me.

With the term of Federal court coming on very soon I do not see how I can possibly get away. I am by no means in accord with the aggressive activities of the legion legislative committee in Washington in its efforts to procure speedy enactment of a cash bonus bill.

On February 13 this year our local papers contained prominent write ups on this subject matter, under a Washington date line, relating the activities of the legion committee in Washington in its efforts to put Congress on record. The tone of these articles smacked of a threat; and if the situation was correctly pictured in such newspaper articles, I regard the activities of the committee as a departure from the policy adopted at the national convention last November. On the day I read this newspaper article I wrote a letter to D'Olier, a copy of which I am inclosing to you.

While it may be true that a majority of exservice men on first thought might favor a cash bonus, I am thoroughly convinced that those who have the welfare of the American Legion at heart and who have given this matter sober thought are opposed to a cash bonus at this time. I am equally positive that if all the legion members throughout the United States were fully appraised of the facts and circumstances surrounding this subject matter and were then presented with the picture of the results of a \$2,500,000,000-bond issue by the Government and then had a few days' time in which to think the matter over seriously, that a majority of the membership in the American Legion would then be opposed to a cash bonus.

In my humble judgment the activities of the national legislative committee of the American Legion at Washington, in its aggressive action for a cash bonus, if such is true and if the newspapers have pictured such activities accurately, is bound to lead to harmful results. Such action will not tend to instill confidence on the part of the public in the American Legion. The old, old argument that shipyard workers, munition workers, etc., demanded and received lucrative and excessive wages during the war, without which they threatened to strike, seems to me to be the strongest argument against the legion asking for a cash bonus. None of us approved of the action on the part of a few radical agitators threatening to strike in some of the vital industries during the war unless unheard-of wages were paid, yet it appears that some of our membership is willing to stoop to that level, and we can not afford to do it. I could fill page after page writing about this subject because I feel it very keenly, but I know it is unnecessary to dwell at length in discussing it with you.

I hope our committee in Washington will not put the American Legion in the attitude of threatening to defeat Congressmen and Senators who do not favor a cash bonus at this time. If they do, as far as I am concerned, my voice, which has weakened somewhat over this matter, will be silenced into a whisper.

Wishing you continued, merited success, I remain,

Sincerely and cordially, yours,

W. W. HOLLOWAY.

FEBRUARY 15, 1920.

MR. FRANKLIN D'OLIER,
*National Commander American Legion,
 Indianapolis, Ind.*

DEAR SIR: I notice a prominent article in the morning papers, under a Washington date line, of the 12th instant to the effect that the national executive committee of the American Legion "are polishing up their helmets and digging out their gas masks, preparing to go over the top with the law-makers and put them on record one way or the other on some of the important legislation designed to benefit the ex-soldier and ex-sailor before election time comes." The main drive, it is said here, is to be centered behind the "adjustment bond" plan—a proposal to give each soldier and sailor a \$50 bond for each month of service with the colors. Franklin D'Olier, national commander of the legion, is expected to arrive in Washington next week and name a new committee to press the soldier legislation on Congress. * * *

I have had several phone calls about this article already this morning, in which each one of the callers disapproved on the tone of this article. I happened to be chairman of the Kansas delegation at the Minneapolis convention, and I believe that I know the attitude of the former service men in this State relative to this proposition. Soon after the war was over there was a general feeling among the service men that the Government should grant a bonus to them. Sentiment on this matter has now changed, because many of the boys feel that the occasion which gave rise to the necessity of a bonus has passed, and they believe that affirmative action on the part of the American Legion on such a matter as this would prove very detrimental to the legion.

I have no hesitancy in saying that as far as I am personally concerned I think that such action would be a great mistake. We have been granted one bonus by the Government; true, it was a small one, nevertheless it was a bonus. If there is any merit in a contention for a second bonus, there would be just as much merit in a contention for a third bonus and a fourth bonus and ad infinitum. It seems to me that this is a time above all others when the American Legion can set a most wholesome and far-reaching example by telling the public that the service men do not want a bonus; that they do not intend to bankrupt the country that they fought to save; furthermore, that they do not intend to see anybody else do so.

If the American Legion should go on record to this effect, it occurs to me that it would have a most wholesome influence upon many other individual and organized efforts to drain the Treasury of the United States. There must be a stopping point some place in the soaring wages, prices of all commodities, and increased taxes, and who can set a more wholesome example along this line than the American Legion?

As far as the disabled service men and their dependent relatives are concerned, I want to see a most liberal policy toward them, but it does seem to me that the man or woman who has returned from service sound of body and mind should not ask an additional bonus. As a general rule the young man who was not disabled in service and who has any energy and ambition is now engaged in a gainful occupation. If he is not so engaged, the chances are that he was a pool-hall loafer or a gambler prior to the war. Of course, there are exceptions to this statement, and I intend no reflection whatever upon one who happens to be unfortunate and is earnestly seeking a gainful employment without avail.

Before departing from the policy adopted by the Minneapolis convention with reference to this subject matter I hope to see a plan evolved by which the present sentiment of the service men throughout this Nation may be tested, because I am firmly convinced that a substantial majority of the American Legion is not in favor of asking Congress for a cash bonus at this time. Just as sure as we do we are "digging our own grave" and furnishing strong argument for those who have a lurking suspicion that the American Legion was organized for selfish purposes.

I am heartily in favor of any legislation which is designed to aid and assist the service men in procuring a home, something that he will ultimately pay for himself, and which will also develop the community and country at large and add to the taxable wealth of the Nation. I believe that a cash bonus would be spent very quickly by the vast majority of those who would receive it, and that they would, in the end, have nothing to show for it. The Government is now

"up to its ears" in debt. Let's help lighten that burden rather than pile more debts upon its already overburdened shoulders. I hope that the newspaper article above referred to is inaccurate.

With warmest personal regards, I am,

Yours for a powerful, patriotic, unselfish cause—the American Legion.

W. W. HOLLOWAY.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., March 20, 1920.

REV. JOHN W. INZER,

First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tenn.

DEAR INZER: I have called the governor, but he is out of town until Monday. Upon his return I shall call him and urge him to accept your invitation.

I do not have time to express my sentiments at length on the bonus matter. I have been in the midst of a very prolonged and bitter fight in the State to make our State stand fast on the stand it took at the October convention refusing to ask for a cash bonus in any sum. I am still holding fast to that. I shall count on you to stay with me to the very last breath. I have been rather bitterly assailed by misguided elements in the State, who have attributed unworthy motives to me in taking the stand that I have taken, but good men from all over the State write me every day telling me that my stand is exactly right and confirming my belief that it would be a disgraceful thing for the American Legion to make this grab into the Public Treasury.

I shall not be able to go to Washington, but Nelson, who is an unusually strong man and powerful fighter, will represent our State. He will do everything to have the action of the 15 national committeemen repudiated. When the American Legion in a national convention goes on record asking for cash for service men, I quit the organization, not to return until the legion repents. I shall be glad if you could go to Washington. I believe your presence would greatly strengthen the hearts of the antibonus men.

Your friend, sincerely,

JIM HARRISON.

NINETIETH DIVISION ASSOCIATION,

Dallas, Tex., March 10, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Ways and Means Committee,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: As an ex-service, overseas, enlisted man I desire to enter my protest against Congress granting the bonus to the ex-service men.

I write this, not as a representative of the 20,000 men of this association, but as an individual. I realize that possibly a great majority of the members are in favor of the bonus. However, I know also that a great many of them feel as I do.

The Government has made generous provision for the dependents of the men who lost their lives in the service of their country; it has been equally as generous to the men who were disabled or whose earning capacity in civil life has been impaired in any way. I feel also that the Government and the people have discharged faithfully and most generously their obligation to all who fought for or who served their country during the past emergency.

There is no question but that the Government has shown unexampled generosity in its treatment of all ex-service men, and it is my opinion that this generosity is the cause of the unexampled greed now being shown by certain ex-service men.

Personally, I can not help but feel that should the Government grant such a bonus as now demanded we could not feel that we were entitled to the gratitude, honor, and respect which the people of our country have so bountifully bestowed upon us. It was not only a privilege but a duty to fight for and to serve our country. It was a duty that does not demand a monetary consideration.

It seems evident to me that the men who are now so strenuously demanding the bonus have failed to seriously consider the matter; that they are prompted only by selfishness and have a most selfish motive in mind. A great many of them failed to realize their duty to maintain and preserve to posterity the principles that were so sacred to our forefathers.

When our country desires to reward (?) the ex-service men, freely and voluntarily, without solicitation, then the men might be excused for accepting it; but to demand or to even ask for it simply takes them out of the patriot class and puts them into the grafter class. Being one of them, I, of course, would regret the change.

If we are rewarded in this manner, how do you expect to reward the thousands of our comrades who did not come back? The compensation now being paid to their relatives can not be considered a reward, for the man paid for his insurance and was paying for it at the time of his death. They have given up all—no greater sacrifice could be made—and to detract from the honor of the living can not but detract also from the honor of the dead. It is unfair to them to attempt to place or estimate the value of their service, or our service, in money.

The plan is, in my opinion, not practical. Hundreds of men, if given the cash bonus, or a bonus from which they could realize cash, would merely squander it in idleness. Few ex-service men are now actually in need of Government assistance. There is no moral warrant for making such demands, and as one of the minority I earnestly and sincerely enter my protest against the granting of a bonus.

Very truly, yours,

ARTHUR J. REINHART.

WICHITA FALLS, TEX., March 6, 1920.

Mr. JOHN N. GARNER,

Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. GARNER: Permit me to commend in the strongest way your courageous stand against the drives now being made against the Public Treasury on behalf of ex-service men. The declared high purposes upon which these several organizations were set on foot now seem to have been nothing more than camouflage. It is indeed difficult to harmonize the present unconscionable demand with the slogan "One hundred per cent Americanism," etc., so loudly proclaimed last spring and summer by the founders of the American Legion. Those now making this clamor most certainly convict themselves of an utter lack of proper motive in the service they rendered during the war.

The vast majority of ex-service men and women are deeply humiliated at the universal but silent scorn which must meet this abominable scheme to capitalize the Nation's gratitude. Be assured that the "lobby" now at Washington pretending to speak for us in no sense represent those who take pride in the opportunity which was theirs to serve the country during the darkest period of its history.

If your committee could but understand the real temper of our great body you would not dignify the claims and pretensions of these self-constituted representatives of ours now before you with any consideration or courtesy whatever. They should be sent about their business with the positive rebuke their conduct deserves.

The writer of this letter spent a year overseas, and served in the Ninetieth Division.

JOS. B. HATCHITT.

Ex-Commander Pat Carrigan Post, American Legion.

TYLER, TEX., March 6, 1920.

Representative JAMES YOUNG,

Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Reference the unfortunate agitation now before the House in favor of gratuities or bonus money for ex-service men, may I take the liberty to advise that I believe sentiment among most representative men who served in the armed forces during the war is overwhelmingly against any such legislation. Many of us who have been taking interest in the activities of the American Legion in this section are gravely disappointed in the action of the national president of the legion in urging the passage of a bonus bill.

I am confident that our views are in accord on this matter, but am taking the liberty of writing because it seems that a small but noisy minority are making so much furore before Congress that the true sentiment of most representative ex-soldiers might for a time be misjudged.

With kindest regards to yourself and family, I am,

Very sincerely,

GORDON SIMPSON.

TEXAS BRANCH AMERICAN LEGION,
San Antonio, Tex., March 4, 1920.

Hon. JOHN M. GARNER,
Member of Congress, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: I am inclosing herewith copy of a resolution adopted by the executive committee of the American Legion, Department of Texas, on February 23.

In view of recent developments in Congress and at national headquarters of our organization in regard to the bonus question, we consider it our duty to inform our own congressional Representatives that the Department of Texas does not concur in the position taken by our national headquarters in abrogating the action of our national convention, and that we further consider that the national commander of the American Legion and the national executive committee have not the authority to take any action not given them by our national constitutional and legislative assembly.

The Department of Texas of the American Legion continues to look with confidence to Congress for the discharge of any obligation to the ex-soldiers which may or may not exist.

Very truly, yours,

CHARLES W. SCRUGGS, *State Adjutant.*

RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas the national convention of the American Legion is the supreme legislative body of the organization; and

Whereas the national officers and executive committee are under the duty to put the legislation adopted by the national convention into effect and are bound by its action; and

Whereas the national convention adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas the question of adjustment of compensation or extra pay for service men and women is now pending before the Congress has shown the disposition to await the view of this convention upon the subject: Therefore be it

Resolved, That while the American Legion was not founded for the purpose of promoting legislation in its selfish interest, yet it recognizes that our Government has an obligation to all service men and women to relieve the financial disadvantages incidental to their military service, an obligation second only to that of caring for the disabled and for the widows and orphans of those who sacrificed their lives and one already acknowledged by our Allies, but the American Legion feels that it can not ask for legislation in its selfish interest, and leaves with confidence to Congress the discharge of this obligation."

And whereas adequate provision has not yet been made for the wounded and sick service men, especially those suffering from tuberculosis, which, in the opinion of the national convention, was and is the first and paramount duty of our Congress and our people and is the first care and consideration of the American Legion, and upon which we demand prompt action and results from Congress: Now therefore be it

Resolved, By the executive committee of the Texas department of the American Legion that we do affirm that the spirit and the letter of the national convention legislation is the chart and guide for the national officers and executive committee; that the departure from the chart and guide by the national commander and his conference in demanding a bonus, deciding the kind and character thereof, and in bringing political pressure to bear upon Congress to obtain same, is a violation of the letter and spirit of the national convention instructions and not in accord with the true spirit of the membership; and be it further

Resolved, That we reaffirm our allegiance to our own national representative legislative convention and to its wisdom in adopting its resolution on the bonus question, and continue to look with confidence to our National Congress for the wise and proper legislation in reference to this and to all other matters affecting service men; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the national commander of the American Legion, to all national executive committeemen, each State headquarters, and to all Senators and Congressmen of our own State.

TYLER, TEX., March 5, 1920.

HON. JAMES YOUNG,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. YOUNG: I am writing you as post commander of the Favre Baldwin Post, American Legion, to advise you of the sentiments of this post and of the majority of Smith County former service men in regard to the bonus legislation now pending.

We are absolutely opposed to a bonus in any form for able-bodied service men. We are heartily in favor of full compensation and care for all wounded or disabled soldiers, sailors, and marines.

We would like to see every tubercular service man provided with a proper place and with the care necessary for them to have a chance to overcome this disease, and we feel that, particularly in our State, where there are now between four and five thousand men so afflicted, legislation is urgently needed to establish sanitariums to take care of these afflicted soldiers.

We are writing this letter, thinking that, perhaps, this matter will be of interest to you and because we want you to know how the men of Smith County feel about the present legislation.

With very best wishes and regards, I am,
Sincerely, yours,

F. A. MOORE.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., March 4, 1920.

HON. JOHN GARNER,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: As an ex-soldier I want to answer Edward H. Hale, appearing before your House Ways and Means Committee. I want to go on record as being absolutely opposed to the granting of any bonus whatsoever. Why should the Government go deeper in debt and increase the burden of taxation to favor any special class? Simply doing one's duty calls for no reward.

If such men as Hale would get back to work instead of lobbying in Washington, hollering about service men needing help to start them back in civilian life, 18 months after the end of the war, trying to get something for nothing, the high cost of living would have one of its main props knocked from under.

A liberal gratuity of \$60 was allowed every soldier on his discharge, which was just \$60 more than necessary. Why ask for more? Ours was not an Army of paupers turned beggars, and I'm confident the majority are opposed to "robbing Peter to pay Paul," for the people have to pay the freight any way you take it.

You are free to use this letter any way you see fit.

Yours, truly,

NED C. BELL.

UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE HOSPITAL,
Waukesha, Wis., March 5, 1920.TO THE CHAIRMAN WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

SIR: Would the opinion of an ex-service woman be of any interest to you?

It makes me feel humiliated (and I am speaking for a large majority of ex-service men—I hope—and women) to read all the discussion concerning the bonus.

Why should men and women who did only their duty in serving their country be paid above allotted salary for that honor? It was a big enough mistake when a flat rate of \$80 a month was given to the temporarily totally disabled. A fine way to create initiative and responsibility, don't you think? True, some deserve and should have it, but it does more harm than good.

Please, Mr. Chairman, leave all politics and mushy sentimentality out of it and let common sense rule us in this.

I served 17 months. Was ready the moment the call came and ready to go again if needed, as are all the women who served with me, but we are not asking Uncle Sam for such a monumental piece of graft as this bonus means.

Here's hoping the American Legion—I am one—will take a stand to keep their self-respect.

Sincerely, yours,

ISABEL F. SHANNON, Registered Nurse.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., March 8, 1920.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,
Chairman Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. FORDNEY: Inclosed find copy of resolutions adopted by Cheyenne Post, No. 6, of the American Legion, protesting against bonus legislation, and copy of a letter addressed by the committee of the post to its officers, giving reasons why bonus legislation should not be requested.

Very truly, yours,

F. W. MONDELL.

LETTER.

FEBRUARY 26, 1920.

MR. A. L. BECKER, *Post Commander*, and
MR. GUY R. KING, *Post Adjutant*,
Cheyenne Post No. 6, the American Legion, Cheyenne, Wyo.

GENTLEMEN: At a meeting of Cheyenne Post No. 6, Tuesday, February 24, the post by unanimous vote adopted a resolution declaring that this post was opposed to the various bills now pending in Congress which propose that the National Government shall pay to each soldier, sailor, or marine who served in the Great War an additional bonus. Some of the bills propose that the bonus be paid in money, other bills propose that the bonus be in the form of bonds, etc. As chairman of the committee which drew this resolution, I desire to give you some of the guiding thoughts which brought forth the said resolution, in order that you may advise those who may make inquiry:

At the St. Louis caucus of the American Legion on May 8, 9, and 10, 1919, by a unanimous vote on the floor, a resolution declaring for an additional bonus was voted down. At the first national convention, held at Minneapolis on November 10, 11, and 12, 1919, the bonus proposition was not voted upon on its merits, but a resolution was passed leaving the matter, without recommendation, in the hands of Congress. Several speeches were made upon the bonus question pro and con, and it was very evident that had the straight question of whether or not a bonus was desired been put to a vote the proposition would have resulted in a decidedly negative majority. The resolution bearing upon the bonus question was made a part of a report which embraced some seven or eight additional subjects and the report was voted upon as a whole. But the sentiment of the convention could be judged by the applause which greeted the different speakers. Those who spoke against the bonus proposition received deafening applause from every part of the convention hall, while those speaking for a bonus received scant encouragement.

In the face of the bonus sentiment, at both St. Louis and Minneapolis, I have been amazed and dumbfounded to learn that the national executive committee has placed its stamp of approval upon a resolution now pending in Congress which would provide that the Government give to each soldier, sailor, or marine a \$50 Government bond for each month of service in the Great War.

I have been one of those who thought that a man should not lay aside his patriotism with his uniform. A man has no less obligations to his country out of uniform than in, and this is a point to be remembered by every member of the American Legion if it is to be expected that that great organization will continue upon the broad foundations upon which it was conceived—a spirit of helpfulness and upbuilding toward everything which concerns our Nation. That spirit will not permit the American Legion to say to-day that it is the will of the organization that the national indebtedness shall be added to in an almost immeasurable degree to provide a bond issue such as proposed. For, in the present state of the Nation's finances, it would do more to undermine confidence in the financial integrity of the country, if, indeed, it would not bring about an actual panic, than any one thing we have had to confront since the termination of the war. Why? Because this would be the situation: For the Government to float a bond issue, such would be required, would mean that the interest rate would have to be very liberal, financial experts say as high as 5 per cent. That, in turn, would mean a depreciation in value of the Liberty bond issues floated during and immediately following the war, thus visiting a real hardship upon millions of patriotic people who subscribed to those issues. It would mean that millions of men in the United States would be given bonds which, not having been acquired through the usual processes of saving, would

represent something to be immediately realized upon. As a result, there is no doubt whatever that the bond markets would be absolutely flooded and that thousands upon thousands of these men would accept almost anything that could be immediately secured for their bonds. The responsibility for bringing about such a situation with its consequent financial turmoil is too great—it is inconceivable that the American Legion, an organization born of a great love for America and dedicated to the Nation's utmost welfare, should assume such a responsibility.

I understand that the national executive committee has advanced the argument that Congress has no right to oppose the passage of a measure of this kind upon the ground of economy, stating that economy should not be practiced at the expense of the former service men. That sounds good, but is far from logical. One only has to pay attention to the news of the day to know that Congress is practicing economy upon every hand and that every branch of governmental activity knows the need for the most rigid pruning of expenditures if the Nation is to be saved from financial stress, if not ruin. We here in Wyoming know that our reclamation projects can not secure appropriations of money needed for the completion of those projects. We know that public buildings, long proposed, are not under construction. We know that every governmental activity which affects our State is being curtailed for lack of finances. Therefore, it will not do for the national executive committee to say that the Government is economizing only along one line. I note, too, the argument is advanced that the men do not want a bonus; that what is really desired is "adjusted compensation." These are only weasel words. For, if there is one thing that absolutely can not be done, that one thing is the adjustment of compensation. There are men in our post who, without a doubt, suffered financial losses due to his service in the war running into thousands of dollars, whereas others suffered losses of hundreds of dollars, others still less. How, then, can it be said that those things can be adjusted? This twisting of words does no credit to National Commander D'Oller and the executive committee.

This is not a time to "rock the boat." The situation of the United States to-day demands the application by every citizen of one hundred per cent Americanism in all that phrase conveys. It is the duty of each and every one of us to hew close to the line of thrift and economy, and, that being our personal duty, is it not our duty also to urge the same line of action upon our Government? To my mind, the American Legion has here a wonderful opportunity to show to the country that it is a force which proposes to put something into the Government rather than to take from it; to place service above self; in short, to do that thing which we know should be done; to say "We are glad we served, and the satisfaction of mind for having so served is our full payment."

Yours for the enduring success of the American Legion.

Respectfully,

COMMITTEE.

RESOLUTIONS.

The resolution drawn up by the Cheyenne post of the American Legion in accordance with the action taken by the post at its meeting Tuesday night, in which the post takes exception to the attempt of the national executive committee of the American Legion to force through Congress a bonus bill, and declares against a bonus for returned service men in good physical condition, is as follows:

- "Whereas the victorious participation of the United States in the World War has laid a burden of indebtedness upon our Nation which will require the payment of untold billions of dollars in taxation by this and many future generations; and
- "Whereas it is the bounden duty of every citizen and every organization of citizens to refrain from any act which will add to this already almost intolerable burden; and
- "Whereas there have been introduced and are pending before the Congress of the United States numerous bills and resolutions having as their objects the payment to Americans who served their country during the war certain bonuses payable in money, in bonds, and otherwise; and
- "Whereas it is apparent that the passing of any one or several of the said bills or resolutions will have as its immediate effect the addition to the indebtedness of our Nation of billions of dollars; and

"Whereas the passage of the Sweet bill by Congress has provided for the needs of those who are incapacitated and other measures have passed and are pending which offer to soldiers, sailors, and marines hitherto unequalled opportunities for securing homes upon the public lands, etc., which measures lay no further burden upon the Nation and yet recognize the great services which have been rendered; and

"Whereas the American Legion was conceived in a spirit of patriotism for all things American and has as its one great object the upbuilding of our Nation in every moral and material way: Now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That Cheyenne Post, No. 6, of the American Legion unequivocally repudiates the idea that the services of the soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in the Great War can be measured in terms of dollars and cents, and declares it to be the sentiment of said post that no such bill or resolution should receive favorable consideration at the hands of Congress; and be it

"Further resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to Hon. John B. Kendrick, Hon. Francis E. Warren, and Hon. Frank W. Mondell, Senators and Representative in Congress from the State of Wyoming, and to State and national headquarters of the American Legion that all may be advised of the sentiment of Cheyenne Post No. 6, that a bonus for past services is neither needed nor desired and that any appeal for a bonus is felt to be not only doubly unpatriotic at this time but is directly contrary to the spirit and precepts of the American Legion."

STATEMENTS FROM GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS—PAY TABLES.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Washington, October 11, 1919.

HON. JOSEPH W. FORDNEY,

Chairman Committee on Ways and Means,

House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Inclosed herewith is a copy of the statement which I delivered to-day before the Select Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives. I should like to call your attention particularly to the views which I have expressed on pages 8 to 10 as to the present agitation for bonuses for soldiers and sailors. Some of this agitation, as you know, is reflected in bills which have already been introduced in the Congress.

I trust that the views of the Treasury on this subject will commend themselves to you and the members of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Very truly, yours,

CARTER GLASS.

[Excerpts from statement by Secretary Glass on the budget, delivered before the Select Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, Oct. 4, 1919.]

To-day the credit of the United States is imperiled by projects initiated and supported on the floor of Congress with a view to capturing the so-called soldier vote. I do not believe for a minute there is any such thing as the soldier vote. I do not believe that that magnificent body of strong, brave, lusty young men who went out to France, or were ready to go, want to see the people of the United States exploited in order that each of them may receive a donation. I do not believe these fine young men, if they realized what it is that is proposed in their behalf, would accept a gift made at the expense of their fathers and mothers and sisters and the children that are to come after them in order to give them a holiday. While, of course, you can not commit to terms of money the value of the service rendered by the Army of America, I call your attention to the fact that the actual pay of our soldiers was doubled at the outset of the war; that our soldiers have been paid with liberality never dreamed of in the history of this or any other country; and that the projects now advocated so lavishly and with so little regard for the welfare of the American people are not limited to those heroic men who suffered injury or death at the hands of the enemy, not even to those who actually saw the front, not even to those who were sent to France. These projects extend to everyone of some 4,500,000 men, mostly young men, who were included in the military and naval forces of the United States, even to those of their number who sought and obtained employment of a character which would relieve them from being exposed to personal risk.

It has been the disheartening task of the Treasury to examine scores and scores of bills drawn and presented with a view to benefitting a section of the country or a portion of its citizenship at the expense of the whole. Many of these bills were apparently devised to avoid the appearance of an appropriation by requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bonds, notes, or certificates of indebtedness to meet the expenditure involved, and all of these bills were such as would not be reached by a purely executive budget.

I have said the finances of the United States are in excellent condition. I have said, in substance, that I do not anticipate a deficit in the current fiscal year in excess of \$1,000,000,000, and that that deficit is covered by deferred installments of the Victory loan payable within the fiscal year. I have said that there need be no more Liberty loans. But I say to you in all solemnity that if a prompt and immediate halt is not called to this great peril there must be another Liberty loan, and you gentlemen will have to go out to the people of the United States and call upon them to subscribe for bonds, the proceeds of which are to be given away to the well and strong young men who you and I and the American people know went out in a spirit of unselfishness—not one of self-seeking—to fight for their country. You may ask the old men and the widows, the school children, the rich and the poor, who responded to the call of their country to the number of 20,000,000 during the period of the war, to respond again to this call for a donation. I hope I shall never shrink from the performance of any public duty, yet I do not covet the task of making such an appeal, and I shall not willingly be a party to offering this affront to the generous, heroic, unselfish Army and Navy of America that saved the freedom of the world.

The Congress may propose to pay this gift in bonds themselves, but that should not fool anyone. If bonds are given away to the soldiers, the issuance in that manner of those bonds will depress the prices of existing bonds so gravely as to imperil the credit of the United States and force additional sacrifices from the 20,000,000 people who participated in financing the war, in providing the pay, food, and munitions which made it possible for our splendid Army to contribute decisively to the great victory.

McADOO, COTTON & FRANKLIN.

New York, March 24, 1920.

E. W. CAMP, Esq.,

Clerk Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Replying to yours of the 20th instant, I take pleasure in sending you copy of Mr. McAdoo's statement of March 4, 1920, to which you refer.

Yours, sincerely,

E. D. FLAHERTY, *Secretary.*

NEW YORK, March —, 1920.

It seems to me, said Mr. McAdoo, that the time has come for a substantial reduction in the burden of taxation laid upon the American people. We spent \$32,000,000,000 in the war, and we paid a larger portion of it in cash than any nation ever paid before. We raised through taxation, in fact, nearly one-third, not simply of the net war debt after loans to Allies had been subtracted but of the gross amount of our spending. According to rational standards of national finance, it would have been enough to raise 25 per cent by taxation.

I think the present generation could with perfect propriety hand on to posterity the ultimate settlement of a larger part of our war debt than has already been funded.

The financial policies of the Nation as embodied in future congressional legislation should realize the utmost economy in expenditure and might well fund in long-term bonds \$1,000,000,000 per annum for two years of the amount now raised by taxation.

This might be done without substantial increase in the Nation's debt, which the plan seems at first glance to involve. Under the laws a tax to establish a 1 per cent sinking fund to retire bonds now outstanding is to be collected beginning with the fiscal year 1921. This might well be postponed for at least two years, and thus reduce the tax burden by \$250,000,000 annually. There, too, is the debt which Europe owes us and which now amounts to about \$10,000,000,000.

If the economic restoration of Europe had proceeded far enough so that Europe could now pay interest on this debt—as she should be able to within a few years—we should have an income of \$500,000,000 from this source. But that is not now available. Why not fund that amount against the day when it will come back to us? By postponing for two years the establishment of a sinking fund and funding the deferred payments of European interest, we should cover \$750,000,000 per annum of the \$2,000,000,000 by which our taxation might be reduced. By discontinuing purchases of Liberty bonds for retirement under provisions of existing law, the Treasury would be relieved of a large burden now reflected in the floating debt and which otherwise will have to be made up by taxation. It would seem that reduction of our tax bill for the next two years in this manner could be accomplished, and that it would involve the issuance of additional bonds over a period of two years to the extent of probably not more than one and a half billion dollars. Of course, these are mere suggestions and are not intended to outline an inflexible plan.

I trust that the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, in which all tax measures must, of course, originate, will consider this question in its broad relations to our general economic welfare. The immediate burden of taxation is too great. It is having an injurious effect on business. It is a contributing factor of large proportions in the high cost of living. Its inevitable tendency is to stifle new enterprise and to throttle initiative. It is both unscientific and inequitable. In view of the approaching decline in our export trade, with the inevitable reduction in the volume of business in the country, it will become doubly important to revise and to reduce taxation in order that business may not have to carry an unnecessary tax burden throughout this period of readjustment.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS.

Rates of pay of officers of the Marine Corps on duty in the United States and elsewhere.

Grade.	Pay.		Grade.	Pay.	
	Shore duty in United States.	Sea and foreign duty.		Shore duty in United States.	Sea and foreign duty.
Second lieutenants.....	\$1,700	\$1,870	Majors.....	\$3,000	\$3,300
After 5 years.....	1,870	2,057	After 5 years.....	3,300	3,630
After 10 years.....	2,040	2,244	After 10 years.....	3,600	3,960
After 15 years.....	2,210	2,431	After 15 years.....	3,900	4,230
After 20 years.....	2,380	2,618	After 20 years.....	4,000	4,400
First lieutenants.....	2,000	2,200	Lieutenant colonels.....	3,500	3,850
After 5 years.....	2,200	2,420	After 5 years.....	3,850	4,235
After 10 years.....	2,400	2,640	After 10 years.....	4,200	4,620
After 15 years.....	2,600	2,860	After 15 and 20 years.....	4,500	4,950
After 20 years.....	2,800	3,080	Colonels.....	4,000	4,400
Captains.....	2,400	2,640	After 5 years.....	4,400	4,840
After 5 years.....	2,640	2,904	After 10 years.....	4,800	5,280
After 10 years.....	2,880	3,168	After 15 and 20 years.....	5,000	5,500
After 15 years.....	3,120	3,432	Brigadier general.....	6,000	6,600
After 20 years.....	3,360	3,696	Major general.....	8,000	8,800

NOTE.—In addition to the above, all officers on duty were furnished quarters, heat, and light in kind or commutation therefor while on shore duty or on foreign service, except field duty. The allowances when commuted averaged about \$450 in the case of a second lieutenant to about \$1,700 in the case of a major general. In the field these allowances were not made for single officers, but the allowances remained for married officers who maintained a domicile in the United States.

Pay table of enlisted men of the United States Marine Corps on shore duty in the United States, including additional pay, act of May 18, 1917.

Grade.	First enlistment period.	Second enlistment period.	Third enlistment period.	Fourth enlistment period.	Fifth enlistment period.	Sixth enlistment period.	Seventh enlistment period.
Sergeant major, quartermaster sergeant, first sergeant, drum major, gunnery sergeant.....	\$51	\$55	\$59	\$63	\$67	\$71	\$75
Sergeant.....	38	41	44	47	50	53	56
Corporal.....	36	39	42	45	48	51	54
Private, first class.....	33	36	39	42	45	48	51
Private.....	30	33	36	37	38	39	40

NOTES.—On sea and foreign service, 20 per cent additional pay is authorized, but figured upon the prewar rates of pay as fixed by the act of May 11, 1908. The war service increase is, therefore, not included in the computation of this foreign service increase.

With the exception of the war service increase authorized for enlisted men by the act of May 18, 1917, no changes in the rates of pay of officers and men of the Marine Corps have been made since May 11, 1908.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN, UNITED STATES NAVY.

Table of present pay and allowances of commissioned officers of the Navy on Jan. 1, 1920.

	Pay, including 10 per cent extra for sea duty.	Allowance for quarters.	Heat and light.	Total.
	A	B	C	D
SEA DUTY.				
Ensigns.....	\$1,870	\$288	\$120	\$2,278
After 10 years.....	2,244	288	120	2,652
Lieutenants (junior grade).....	2,200	432	180	2,812
After 5 years.....	2,420	432	180	3,032
After 10 years.....	2,640	432	180	3,252
Lieutenants.....	2,640	576	240	3,456
After 5 years.....	2,904	576	240	3,720
After 10 years.....	3,168	576	240	3,984
After 15 years.....	3,432	576	240	4,248
After 20 years.....	3,696	576	240	4,512
Lieutenant commanders.....	3,300	720	300	4,320
After 5 years.....	3,630	720	300	4,650
After 10 years.....	3,960	720	300	4,980
After 15 years.....	4,290	720	300	5,310
After 20 years.....	4,400	720	300	5,420
Commanders.....				
After 15 years.....	4,950	864	360	6,174
After 20 years.....	4,950	864	360	6,174
Captains, after 20 years.....	5,500	1,008	420	6,928
Rear admirals:				
Lower half.....	6,600	1,152	480	8,232
Upper half.....	8,800	1,296	540	10,636
Vice admirals.....	9,000	1,440	600	11,040
Admirals.....	10,000	1,584	660	12,244
Total.....				
SHORE DUTY.				
Ensigns.....	1,700	288	120	2,108
After 10 years.....	2,040	288	120	2,448
Lieutenants (junior grade).....	2,000	432	180	2,612
After 5 years.....	2,200	432	180	2,812
After 10 years.....	2,400	432	180	3,012
After 20 years.....	2,800	432	180	3,412
Lieutenants.....	2,400	576	240	3,216
After 5 years.....	2,640	576	240	3,456
After 10 years.....	2,880	576	240	3,696
After 15 years.....	3,120	576	240	3,936
After 20 years.....	3,360	576	240	4,176

Pay table of enlisted men of the United States Marine Corps on shore duty in the United States, including additional pay, act of May 18, 1917—Continued.

	Pay, including 10 per cent extra for sea duty.	Allow- ance for quarters.	Heat and light.	Total.
	A	B	C	D
SHORE DUTY—continued.				
Lieutenant commanders.....	3,000	720	300	4,020
After 5 years.....	3,300	720	300	4,320
After 10 years.....	3,600	720	300	4,620
After 15 years.....	3,900	720	300	4,920
After 20 years.....	4,000	720	300	5,020
Commanders:				
After 15 years.....	4,500	864	360	5,724
After 20 years.....	4,500	864	360	5,724
Captains, after 20 years.....	5,000	1,008	420	6,428
Rear admirals:				
Lower half.....	6,000	1,152	480	7,632
Upper half.....	8,000	1,296	540	9,836
Vice admirals.....				
Admirals.....	10,000	1,584	660	12,244

Only those officers at sea or on foreign shore duty having a dependent wife, child, or parent receive the amounts shown in column D (sea duty). Other officers at sea only receive the amounts shown in column B (sea duty).

There are approximately 374 commissioned officers on shore duty occupying public quarters who do not receive commutation of quarters, heat, and light.

Pay of enlisted personnel, United States Navy.

[From figures supplied by the Chief of Naval Operations to the Committee on Naval Affairs of the House of Representatives.]

Ratings.	Class.	Pay.
Seaman branch:		
Chief master at arms.....	Chief petty officer.....	\$77.50
Master at arms, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Master at arms, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Master at arms, third class.....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief boatswain's mate.....	Chief petty officer.....	61.00
Boatswain's mates, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Boatswain's mates, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Coxswains.....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief gunner's mate.....	Chief petty officer.....	61.00
Gunner's mates, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Gunner's mates, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Gunner's mates, third class.....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief gunner's mates (torpedo).....	Chief petty officer.....	61.00
Gunner's mates, first class (torpedo).....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Gunner's mates, second class (torpedo).....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Gunner's mates, third class (torpedo).....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief turret captains.....	Chief petty officer.....	72.00
Turret captains.....	Petty officer, first class.....	61.00
Chief quartermaster (naval).....	Chief petty officer.....	61.00
Quartermaster, first class (naval).....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Quartermaster, second class (naval).....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Quartermaster, third class (naval).....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief quartermaster (signal).....	Chief petty officer.....	61.00
Quartermaster, first class (signal).....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Quartermaster, second class (signal).....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Quartermaster, third class (signal).....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Seamen.....	Seamen, first class.....	38.40
Seamen, second class.....	Seamen, second class.....	35.90
Apprentice seamen.....		32.60
Landsmen.....		32.60
Artificer branch:		
Chief special mechanic.....	Chief petty officer.....	145.70
Special mechanic, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	94.00
Chief electrician (general).....	Chief petty officer.....	72.00
Electricians, first class (general).....	Petty officer, first class.....	61.00

Pay of enlisted personnel, United States Navy—Continued.

Ratings.	Class.	Pay.
Artificer branch—Continued.		
Electricians, second class (general).....	Petty officer, second class.....	\$52.00
Electricians, third class (general).....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief electrician (radio).....	Chief petty officer.....	72.00
Electricians, first class (radio).....	Petty officer, first class.....	61.00
Electricians, second class (radio).....	Petty officer, second class.....	52.00
Electricians, third class (radio).....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief carpenter's mate.....	Chief petty officer.....	61.00
Carpenter's mates, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Carpenter's mates, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Carpenter's mates, third class.....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Shipwrights.....	Seamen, first class.....	35.50
Pattern makers, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	77.50
Pattern makers, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	61.00
Ship fitters, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	66.50
Ship fitters, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	52.00
Plumbers and fitters.....	Petty officer, first class.....	55.50
Sailmakers' mates.....	do.....	52.00
Chief storekeepers.....	Chief petty officer.....	61.00
Storekeepers, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Storekeepers, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Storekeepers, third class.....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief printers.....	Chief petty officer.....	72.00
Printers, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Painters, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Painters, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Painters, third class.....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Landsmen for.....	Seamen, third class.....	32.60
Artificer branch, engine-room force.		
Chief machinist's mate.....	Chief petty officer.....	\$83.00
Machinist's mate, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	66.50
Machinist's mate, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	55.50
Engineman, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	55.50
Engineman, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	52.00
Chief water tenders.....	Chief petty officer.....	61.00
Water tenders.....	Petty officer, first class.....	55.50
Boiler makers.....	do.....	77.50
Molders, first class.....	do.....	77.50
Molders, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	61.00
Blacksmiths, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	77.50
Blacksmiths, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	61.00
Coppersmiths, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	66.50
Coppersmiths, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	61.00
Others.....	do.....	38.70
Firemen, first class.....	Seaman, first class.....	46.50
Firemen, second class.....	Seaman, second class.....	41.00
Firemen, third class.....	Seaman, third class.....	36.20
Landsmen for.....	do.....	32.60
Special branch:		
Chief yeoman.....	Chief petty officer.....	72.00
Yeoman, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Yeoman, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Yeoman, third class.....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Chief pharmacist's mate.....	Chief petty officer.....	72.00
Pharmacist's mate, first class.....	Petty officer, first class.....	52.00
Pharmacist's mate, second class.....	Petty officer, second class.....	46.50
Pharmacist's mate, third class.....	Petty officer, third class.....	41.00
Hospital apprentices, first class.....	Seaman, first class.....	38.40
Hospital apprentices, second class.....	Seaman, second class.....	25.90

WAR DEPARTMENT,
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, March 19, 1920.

Hon. J. W. FORDNEY,
House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. FORDNEY: Referring further to your letter of March 12, 1920, requesting a schedule of the various grades and ranks, from private to general, with the pay of each and allowances, both for domestic and foreign service, for use in connection with hearings before the Committee on Ways and Means, with respect to adjusted compensation for ex-service men, I have the honor to inclose herewith tables showing the pay and allowances of officers and enlisted men while on duty in the United States and on foreign service, which it is believed will furnish the information desired by you.

Very sincerely, yours,

P. C. HARRIS,
The Adjutant General.

Pay and allowances of officers and enlisted men, United States Army.

PAY OF OFFICERS IN ACTIVE SERVICE.

Grade.	Pay of grade.		Monthly pay.			
	Yearly.	Monthly.	After 5 years' service.	After 10 years' service.	After 15 years' service.	After 20 years' service.
			10 per ct.	20 per ct.	30 per ct.	40 per ct.
General of the Armies of the United States.....	\$13,500.00	\$1,125.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
General.....	10,000.00	833.33	-----	-----	-----	-----
Lieutenant general.....	9,000.00	750.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Major general.....	8,000.00	666.67	-----	-----	-----	-----
Brigadier general.....	6,000.00	500.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Colonel.....	4,000.00	333.35	\$366.67	\$400.00	\$416.67	\$416.67
Lieutenant colonel.....	3,500.00	291.67	320.83	350.00	375.00	375.00
Major.....	3,000.00	250.00	275.00	300.00	325.00	333.33
Captain.....	2,400.00	200.00	220.00	240.00	260.00	280.00
First lieutenant.....	2,000.00	166.67	183.33	200.00	216.67	233.33
Second lieutenant.....	1,700.00	141.67	155.83	170.00	184.17	198.33

PAY OF OFFICERS IN ACTIVE SERVICE WITH 10 PER CENT INCREASE FOR SERVICE BEYOND THE CONTINENTAL LIMITS OF THE UNITED STATES, EXCEPT IN THE CANAL ZONE, PANAMA, HAWAII, OR PORTO RICO.

General of the Armies of the United States.....	\$14,850	\$1,237.50	-----	-----	-----	-----
General.....	11,000	916.67	-----	-----	-----	-----
Lieutenant general.....	9,900	825.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Major general.....	8,800	733.33	-----	-----	-----	-----
Brigadier general.....	6,000	550.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
Colonel.....	4,400	366.67	\$403.33	\$440.00	\$458.33	\$458.33
Lieutenant colonel.....	3,850	320.83	352.91	385.00	412.50	412.50
Major.....	3,300	275.00	302.50	330.00	357.50	366.67
Captain.....	2,640	220.00	242.00	264.00	286.00	308.00
First lieutenant.....	2,200	183.33	201.67	220.00	238.33	256.67
Second lieutenant.....	1,870	155.83	171.38	187.00	202.58	218.14

NOTES.

1. An aid to a major general is allowed \$200, and an aid to a brigadier general \$150 per year, in addition to the pay of his rank.—R. S., 1261.

2. Any officer below the grade of major, required to be mounted, shall receive \$150 per annum additional if he provides one suitable mount at his own expense, and \$200 if he provides two mounts.—Act May 11, 1908.

3. Lieutenants of the Medical Corps are entitled to pay of captain after three years' service.—Act April 23, 1908. After five years' service for those commissioned after June 2, 1916.—Act June 3, 1916.

4. An acting judge advocate detailed by the Secretary of War is entitled to the pay of captain.—Acts July 5, 1884, February 2, 1901.

5. Ten per cent increase on pay of all officers serving outside the United States, except Canal Zone, Panama, Porto Rico, or Hawaii.—Act August 24, 1912.

6. Chaplains appointed prior to April 21, 1904, are entitled to pay of captains; appointed subsequent to April 21, 1904, entitled to pay of first lieutenant for first seven years of service, thereafter to pay of captain; retired from active service prior to April 21, 1904, entitled to the retired pay of captain; appointed prior to April 21, 1904, and retired from active service subsequent to that date, but prior to completion of seven years' service, entitled to the retired pay of captain.—Acts February 2, 1901; April 21, 1904; 10 Comp., 765, May 7, 1904.

7. When assigned to active duty, retired officers below the grade of lieutenant colonel receive the full pay and allowances of their grades, and a colonel or lieutenant colonel receive the same pay and allowances as a retired major would receive under a like assignment.—Acts April 23, 1904; March 2, 1905; and June 12, 1906.

When assigned to duty at educational institutions under the provisions of the act of November 3, 1893, retired officers below the grade of lieutenant colonel receive the full pay and allowances of their grades, and a colonel or lieutenant colonel receive the full pay of a major with the allowances of their respective grades.—Act March 3, 1909.

Retired officers above the grade of colonel receive only their full retired pay when assigned to active duty or detailed to duty with an educational institution.—Acts March 2, 1905, and March 3, 1909.

The President is hereby authorized to detail such numbers of officers of the Army, either active or retired, not above the grade of colonel, as may be necessary, for duty as professors and assistant professors of military science and tactics at institutions where one or more units of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps are maintained. * * * Retired officers below the grade of lieutenant colonel so detailed shall receive the full pay and allowances of their grade, and retired officers above the grade of major

so detailed shall receive the same pay and allowances as a retired major would receive under a like detail.—Act of June 3, 1916.

8. Aviation officers of the Signal Corps while on duty that requires them to participate regularly and frequently in aerial flights are entitled to an increase in the pay of their grade and length of service under their commissions as follows: Aviation officers, 25 per cent; junior military aviators, 50 per cent; and military aviators, 75 per cent. Each junior military aviator and each military aviator duly qualified and while so serving shall have the rank, pay, and allowances of one grade higher than that held by him under his commission, provided that his rank under said commission be not higher than that of captain.—Act June 3, 1916.

9. The office of General of the Armies of the United States is hereby revived * * * and the officer appointed under the foregoing authorization shall have the pay prescribed by section 24 of the act of Congress approved July 15, 1870, and such allowances as the President shall deem appropriate * * *.—Act September 3, 1919. The pay prescribed by section 24, act of July 15, 1870, is \$13,500 per annum.

The pay of the grades of general and lieutenant general shall be \$10,000 and \$9,000 per year, respectively, with allowances appropriate to said grades as determined by the Secretary of War.—Act October 6, 1917; see Bulletin 57, W. D., 1917.

10. In time of war retired officers of the Army may be employed on active duty, in the discretion of the President, and when so employed they shall receive the full pay and allowances of their grade.—Act June 3, 1916; Bulletin 16, W. D., 1916. All retired officers now on active duty under assignment by War Department orders are, by direction of the President, placed on active military duty under the provisions of the next to last proviso of section 24 of the Act of Congress approved June 3, 1916, from the date of this order.—G. O. 59, W. D., May 11, 1917.

OFFICE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE,
March 18, 1920.

SOLDIERS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION.

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Grade and arm of service.	First enlistment period.	Second enlistment period.	Third enlistment period.	Fourth enlistment period.	Fifth enlistment period.	Sixth enlistment period.	Seventh enlistment period.
Quartermaster sergeant, senior grade—Quartermaster Corps.							
Band leader—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers.	\$81.00	\$85.00	\$89.00	\$93.00	\$97.00	\$101.00	\$105.00
Master signal electrician—Signal Corps.	*97.20	102.00	106.80	111.60	116.40	121.20	126.00
Master electrician—Coast Artillery Corps.							
Master engineer, senior grade—Corps of Engineers.							
Master hospital sergeant—Medical Department.	71.00	75.00	79.00	83.00	87.00	91.00	95.00
Hospital sergeant—Medical Department.	*85.00	90.00	94.80	99.60	104.40	109.20	114.00
Master engineer, junior grade—Corps of Engineers.	56.00	60.00	64.00	68.00	72.00	76.00	80.00
Engineer, Coast Artillery Corps.	*67.20	72.00	76.80	81.60	86.40	91.20	96.00
Sergeant, first class—Medical Department.							
Regimental sergeant major—Field Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry, Corps of Engineers.							
Regimental supply sergeant—Infantry, Cavalry, Field Artillery, Corps of Engineers.							
Sergeant major, senior grade—Coast Artillery Corps.							
Quartermaster sergeant, Quartermaster Corps.							
Ordnance sergeant—Ordnance Department; chauffeur, first class—Signal Corps.							
First sergeant—Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry, Corps of Engineers.	51.00	55.00	59.00	63.00	67.00	71.00	75.00
Battalion sergeant major—Corps of Engineers; steward—Mine Planter Service.	*81.20	86.00	90.80	95.60	100.40	105.20	110.00
Battalion supply sergeant—Corps of Engineers.							
Electrician sergeant, first class—Coast Artillery Corps.							
Sergeant, first class—Corps of Engineers, Signal Corps, Quartermaster Corps.							
Assistant engineer—Coast Artillery Corps.							
Battalion sergeant major—Field Artillery, Infantry.							
Squadron sergeant major—Cavalry.							
Sergeant major, junior grade—Coast Artillery Corps.	48.00	52.00	56.00	60.00	64.00	68.00	72.00
Master gunner—Coast Artillery Corps.	*57.60	62.40	67.20	72.00	76.80	81.60	86.40
Sergeant bugler—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers.							
Assistant band leader—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers.							
Sergeant—Corps of Engineers, Ordnance Department, Signal Corps, Quartermaster Corps, Medical Department.							
Stable sergeant—Corps of Engineers.							
Supply sergeant—Corps of Engineers.							
Chauffeur, Signal Corps.							
Oiler—Mine Planter Service.	44.00	48.00	52.00	56.00	60.00	64.00	68.00
Color sergeant—Corps of Engineers.	*52.80	57.60	62.40	67.20	72.00	76.80	81.60
Master sergeant—Field Artillery, Infantry, Cavalry, Corps of Engineers.							
Electrician sergeant, second class—Coast Artillery Corps.							
Band sergeant—Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry, Corps of Engineers.							
Musician, first class—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers.							
Fireman—Mine Planter Service.	41.00	44.00	47.00	50.00	53.00	56.00	59.00
	*49.20	52.80	56.40	60.00	63.60	67.20	70.80

Rates of monthly pay of enlisted men—Acts May 11, 1908, June 3, 1916, and July 11, 1919—Continued.

Grade and arm of service.	First enlistment period.	Second enlistment period.	Third enlistment period.	Fourth enlistment period.	Fifth enlistment period.	Sixth enlistment period.	Seventh enlistment period.
Sergeant—Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry.....							
Stable sergeant—Field Artillery, Infantry, Cavalry.....							
Supply sergeant—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery.....							
Mass sergeant—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery.....							
Cook—Artillery, Infantry, Cavalry, Corps of Engineers, Signal Corps, Quartermaster Corps, Medical Department, Mine Planter Service.....	\$38.00	\$41.00	\$44.00	\$47.00	\$50.00	\$53.00	\$56.00
Horse shoer—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers, Signal Corps, Medical Department.....	*45.60	49.20	52.80	56.40	60.00	63.60	67.20
Radio sergeant—Coast Artillery Corps.....							
Fireman—Coast Artillery Corps.....							
Band corporal—Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry, Corps of Engineers.....							
Musician, second class—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers.....							
Corporal—Corps of Engineers, Ordnance Department, Signal Corps, Quartermaster Corps, Medical Department.....	36.00	39.00	42.00	45.00	48.00	51.00	54.00
Chief mechanic—Field Artillery.....	*43.20	46.80	50.40	54.00	57.60	61.20	64.80
Mechanic—Coast Artillery Corps, Assistant Steward, Mine Planter Service.....							
Musician, third class—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers.....	36.00	39.00	42.00	45.00	48.00	51.00	54.00
Saddler—Infantry, Cavalry, Field Artillery, Corps of Engineers, Medical Department.....	*43.20	46.80	50.40	54.00	57.60	61.20	64.80
Mechanic—Infantry, Cavalry, Field Artillery, Corps of Engineers, Medical Department.....							
Wagoner—Infantry, Cavalry, Field Artillery, Corps of Engineers.....							
Private, first class—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers, Ordnance Department, Signal Corps, Quartermaster Corps, Medical Department, bugler, first class.....	33.00	36.00	39.00	42.00	45.00	48.00	51.00
Deck hand, Mine Planter Service.....	*39.60	43.20	46.80	50.40	54.00	57.60	61.20
Bugler—Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Corps of Engineers.....	30.00	33.00	36.00	39.00	42.00	45.00	48.00
Private—Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry, Corps of Engineers, Signal Corps, Quartermaster Corps, Medical Department.....	*36.00	39.60	43.20	46.80	50.40	54.00	57.60
Private, second class—Ordnance Department.....							
BAND—UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.							
Band sergeant and assistant leader.....	81.00	85.00	89.00	93.00	97.00	101.00	105.00
Musician, first class.....	51.00	55.00	59.00	63.00	67.00	71.00	75.00
Musician, second class.....	44.00	48.00	52.00	56.00	60.00	64.00	68.00
Musician, third class.....	38.00	41.00	44.00	47.00	50.00	53.00	56.00
FIELD MUSICIANS—UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.							
Sergeant.....	56.00	60.00	64.00	68.00	72.00	76.00	80.00
Corporal.....	36.00	39.00	42.00	45.00	48.00	51.00	54.00
Private.....	30.00	33.00	36.00	39.00	42.00	45.00	48.00

NOTE.—Rows of figures indicated by * show 20 per cent increase for service beyond the continental limits of the United States, except in the Canal Zone, Panama, Hawaii, or Porto Rico.

SOLDIERS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION.

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Additional pay per month.

Mess sergeant.....	\$6.00
Casemate electrician.....	9.00
Observer, first class.....	9.00
Plotter.....	9.00
Coxswain.....	9.00
Chief planter.....	7.00
Chief loader.....	7.00
Observer, second class.....	7.00
Gun commander.....	7.00
Gun pointer.....	7.00
Surgical assistant.....	5.00
Expert rifleman.....	5.00
Nurse (first-class private).....	3.00

Additional pay per month—Continued.

Sharpshooter.....	\$3.00
First-class gunner.....	3.00
Second class gunner.....	2.00
Marksman.....	2.00
Dispensary assistant.....	2.00
Certificate of merit.....	2.00
Expert (first-class) gunner.....	5.00
Medal of honor.....	2.00
Distinguished service cross.....	2.00
Distinguished service medal.....	2.00
Expert military telegrapher.....	5.00
First-class military telegrapher.....	3.00
Military telegrapher.....	2.00

COMMUTATION OF QUARTERS.

When-on active duty at places where no public quarters are available, officers are entitled to commutation of quarters at the following monthly rates: General, \$132 for 11 rooms; lieutenant general, \$120 for 10 rooms; major general, \$108 for 9 rooms; brigadier general, \$96 for 8 rooms; colonel, \$84 for 7 rooms; lieutenant colonel, \$72 for 6 rooms; major, \$60 for 5 rooms; captain, \$48 for 4 rooms; first lieutenant, \$36 for 3 rooms; second lieutenant, \$24 for 2 rooms.

Under an act approved April 16, 1918, officers on duty in the field whose families are not occupying public quarters are, during the emergency, entitled to commutation of quarters at the above rates.

At places where no public quarters are available, when specifically authorized by the Secretary of War, enlisted men are entitled to commutation of quarters at the rate of \$15 per month.

COMMUTATION OF HEAT AND LIGHT.

When entitled to commutation of quarters, officers are entitled to monthly commutation of heat and light as shown in changes No. 81 to paragraphs 1036 and 1057, Army Regulations (copy attached), dependent upon the month of the year, the zone in which the quarters are located, and for the number of rooms actually occupied, not in excess of the number of rooms authorized for the grade as shown above.

Enlisted men when entitled to commutation of quarters are entitled to commutation of heat and light for the number of rooms occupied, not in excess of two.

OFFICE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE.

MARCH 18, 1920.

1036. (Changed by C. A. R. No. 28, W. D., 1915). Change the table in the third subparagraph to read as follows:

Rooms.	December, January, February.				March, November.				April, May, October.			June 1 to Sept. 30.	
	Zone 1, 0°-20°	Zone 2, 20°-30°	Zone 3, 30°-40°	Zone 4, 40°-60°	Zone 5, 10°-25°	Zone 6, 25°-35°	Zone 7, 35°-45°	Zone 8, 45°-65°	Zone 9, 35°-40°	Zone 10, 40°-50°	Zone 11, 50°-70°	Zone 12, 45°-55°	Zone 13, 55°-75°
1.....	\$9.35	\$8.85	\$8.50	\$8.15	\$9.00	\$8.60	\$8.35	\$7.25	\$7.75	\$7.65	\$6.90	\$7.55	\$6.90
2.....	15.10	14.10	13.30	12.30	14.80	13.80	12.40	10.90	12.10	11.70	8.50	11.40	8.50
3.....	20.40	18.90	17.10	16.20	19.65	18.15	16.35	14.10	15.75	15.30	8.50	14.40	8.50
4.....	24.40	22.80	21.00	19.40	23.80	22.20	19.80	17.00	19.00	18.40	8.50	17.60	8.50
5.....	28.00	26.50	20.05	22.50	27.25	25.50	23.00	19.50	22.25	21.25	8.50	20.50	8.50
6.....	31.50	29.70	22.00	25.20	30.60	28.50	26.10	21.90	24.90	24.30	9.00	23.10	9.00
7.....	35.00	32.90	29.75	27.65	33.95	31.50	28.70	24.15	27.30	26.95	9.45	25.55	9.45
8.....	38.40	36.00	32.40	29.60	37.20	34.40	31.20	26.40	29.20	28.80	9.60	27.60	9.60
9.....	41.85	39.15	35.10	31.50	40.50	37.35	33.75	28.35	31.05	30.60	9.90	29.70	9.90
10.....	45.00	42.00	37.50	33.00	43.50	40.00	36.50	30.50	32.50	32.00	10.00	31.50	10.00
11.....	47.85	44.55	40.15	34.65	45.65	42.90	38.50	32.45	34.10	33.55	10.45	33.00	10.45

SOLDIERS' ADJUSTED COMPENSATION.

(C. A. R. No. 81, Oct. 1, 1918.) [246.82, A. G. O.]
1044. (Changed by C. A. R. Nos. 53 and 54, W. D., 1917, and Nos. 73 and 74, W. D., 1918.) (1) Insert the following above the first item in the table:

General _____ as quarters 11 rooms.

(2) Change the nineteenth item in the first column to read as follows:
Noncommissioned officers above the grade of color sergeant, paragraph 9; color sergeants and firemen, Coast Artillery Corps, each —.

(3) Change the first subparagraph following the table to read as follows:
Enlisted men below the grade of color sergeant, paragraph 9, may be assigned to separate public quarters whenever the same are available after those non-commissioned officers of higher grades have been accommodated and when the conditions of service appear to the commanding officer to warrant such assignment. (C. A. R. No. 81, Oct. 1, 1918.) [246.82, A. G. O.]

1057. (Changed by C. A. R. No. 28, W. D., 1915.) Change the table in subparagraph 3 to read as follows:

Rooms.	April to September, inclusive, per month.	October to March, inclusive, per month.	Rooms.	April to September, inclusive, per month.	October to March, inclusive, per month.
1.....	\$0.80	\$1.20	7.....	\$2.80	\$4.30
2.....	1.15	1.70	8.....	3.10	4.85
3.....	1.50	2.25	9.....	3.40	5.35
4.....	1.80	2.75	10.....	3.75	5.90
5.....	2.15	3.25	11.....	4.05	6.40
6.....	2.45	3.80			

(C. A. R. No. 81, Oct. 1, 1918.) [246.82, A. G. O.]

ALLOWANCES TO FAMILIES OF ENLISTED MEN.

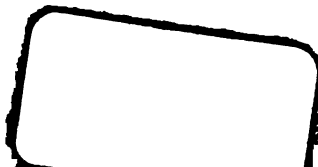
Under the war-risk insurance act as amended the following monthly allowances are payable to families of enlisted men by the War Risk Insurance Bureau:

Class A.—In the case of a man to his wife (including a former wife divorced) and to his child or children. (a) If there is a wife but no child, \$15; (b) if there is a wife and 1 child, \$25; (c) if there is a wife and 2 children, \$32.50, with \$5 per month additional for each child; (d) if there is no wife but 1 child, \$5; (e) if there is no wife but 2 children, \$12.50; (f) if there is no wife but 3 children, \$20; (g) if there is no wife but 4 children, \$30, with \$5 per month additional for each child; (h) if there is a former wife divorced who has not remarried and to whom alimony has been decreed, \$15.

Class B.—In the case of a man or woman to a grandchild, a parent, brother, or sister: (a) If there is one parent, \$10; (b) if there are two parents, \$20; (c) if there is a grandchild, brother, sister, or additional parent, \$5 for each.

OFFICE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE,

March 18, 1920.



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